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こいもく

CIMOC

STORY OF CARTOONIST AND TRUE LOVE / PRESENTED BY ARTLIM MEDIA

激動の漫画業界でプロの漫画家を目指す少年が描き出す、愛と根性の新感覚漫画道!

登場人物

「OZMA」

大村
OZMAの創設者にして現巻頭「日向の初担当作家

藍川美奈子
OZMAの新人作家　耕太と対決する作品を執筆中

ルネ
OZMAの作家部員、耕太に漫画対決を持ちかけた

立川俊哉
OZMAに所属するプロの作家の1人

from「スプラッシュ」

沢野口日向
「新人発掘」の異名を持つスプラッシュ編集長

稲峰耕太
スプラッシュで短期連載中の冴えない青年

藤原美樹
声優に憧れている女の子で、耕太のファン第1号

迫水千佳
日向が新設した耕太のアシスタント

元先輩・同僚

鏡リンネ
ティーンに絶大な人気を誇る小説家

峰龍二郎
「さらば、東京！」など人気小説を持つ漫画家

十文字さやか
コミックヒート編集長で日向の元後輩

あらすじ

女編集長と漫画家を目指す少年の新感覚漫画物語

OZMAと互角に戦うには、ベテラン作家からの助言が必要だと、日向はさっそく協力を要請する。快く(?)引き受けてくれたさやかは大ヒット作品を数多く持つ龍二郎に連絡をするのだが、耕太の作業場を訪れた峰二郎は、耕太の漫画に対する自分たちの限界への挑戦を始め、その結果、原稿のクオリティを大きく向上させる事に成功する。そして挑んだ1回の勝負、結果は惜しくもOZMAに1票差の2位。しかし、龍二郎はプロのシナリオ指導が加われば「この先どう転ぶか分からない」と分析し……。

They might be colleagues...
But nevertheless, to be able to easily call Kagami Rinne, the top-class author who always makes big hits in the novel industry with her best-selling, and set up a meeting with her...
MINE-SENSEI?
Ryuujirou-san...
He really has gotten quite grand...

こいもく

CIMOC

第17話

STORY OF CARTOONIST AND TRUE LOVE / PRESENTED BY ARTLIM MEDIA

原作 林達

作画 海源

by ARTLIM MEDIA

OH MY, YOU'RE WITH CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI?

THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME! I'M SO GLAD~!

Kagami Rinne, a novelist at the peak of her popularity, makes an appearance?!

人気絶頂の小説家、鏡リンネが登板!?

★既刊コミックス1～3巻・全国書店で好評発売中!!★

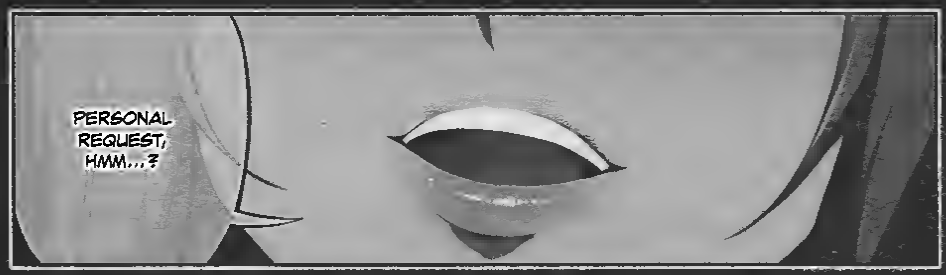
最新コミックス4巻 好評発売中!!

TO MEET THE CHIEF EDITOR PERSONALLY IS SUCH AN HONOR~

GREETINGS, KAGAMI-SENSEI. PLEASE, THIS WAY...
MY, MY~

HAHA, NO, NOT AT ALL, THERE'S NO WAY IT WOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
ガラッ
WAS THERE SOME KIND OF PROBLEM WITH OUR "HEART CATCH"?

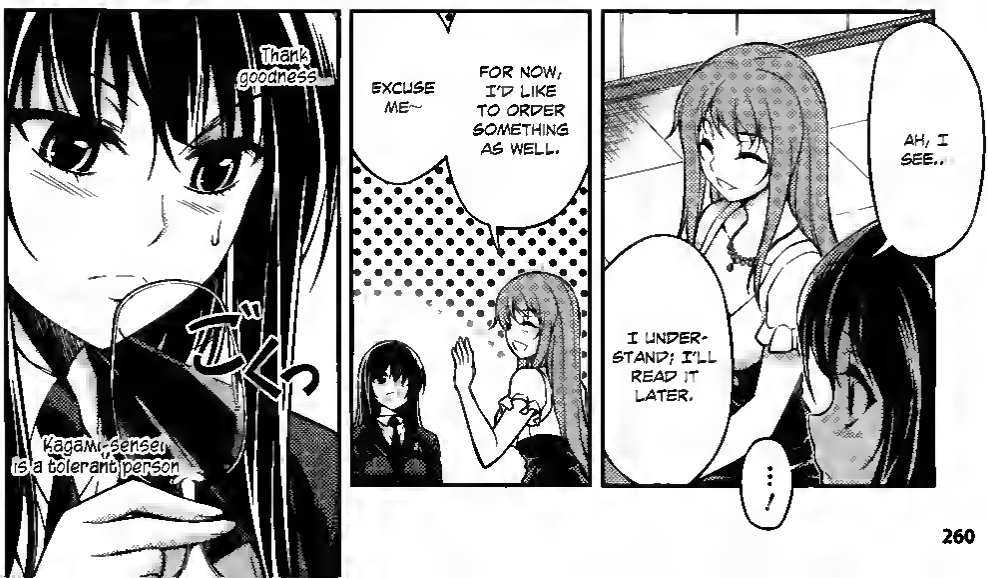
I INVITED YOU HERE TODAY BECAUSE I HAVE A SMALL PERSONAL REQUEST.


PERSONAL REQUEST, HMM...?

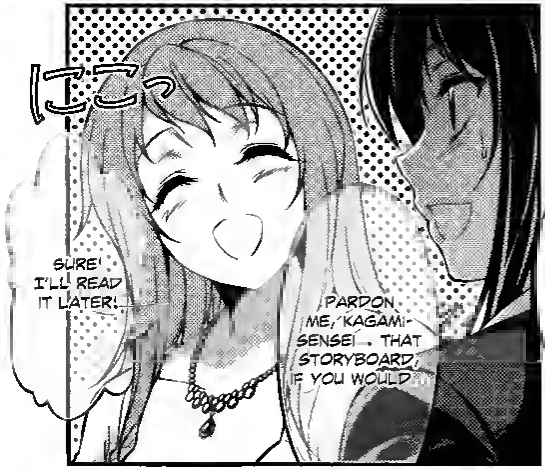
…;
ビク
So you say, but we have a colleague here. Wouldn't talking about your request in this place feel awkward?
We have two popular authors,
and the chief editor of the industry's largest magazine here..
Thank you for your understanding.
Let me get straight to the point. My request is...
Well, whatever.
We'll just have to be friends from today on~
オホホホ
I believe it would be quite troublesome if nasty private stories were to leak out
ごく
…

THIS STORY-BOARD...
WOULD YOU MIND READING IT ONCE?
……?

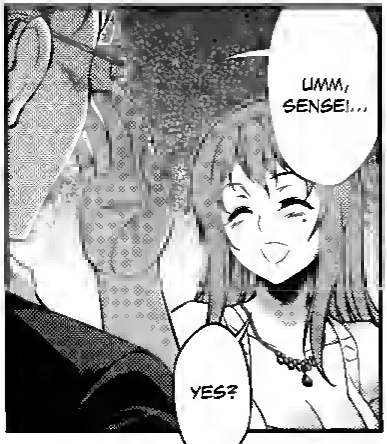
STORY-BOARD? THIS MANGA'S... WHOSE WORK IS THIS?
IT'S THE WORK OF A JUNIOR AUTHOR CURRENTLY BEING PUBLISHED AS A SHORT-TERM SERIALIZATION IN COMIC SPLASH.


AH, I SEE..
I UNDER-STAND; I'LL READ IT LATER.
……!
EXCUSE ME~
FOR NOW, I'D LIKE TO ORDER SOMETHING AS WELL.
Thank goodness
Kagami-sensei is a tolerant person

MORE IMPORTANTLY, MINE-SENSEI,
HAVE YOU CONSIDERED MY PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS OF ADAPTING MY NOVELS INTO MANGA?
AHH, ABOUT THAT...


PARDON ME, KAGAMI-SENSEI. THAT STORYBOARD, IF YOU WOULD...
SURE! I'LL READ IT LATER!...

NOW THAT YOU'VE GIVEN ME THE PLEASURE OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH YOU, I'VE ALSO GRASPED THE TRICK~
IT'S EVEN POSSIBLE TO MATCH IT TO YOUR STYLE AND APPLY REVISIONS TO ITS COMPOSITION~
...


UMM, SENSE!...
YES?

ANYWAY, SINCE WE'VE STARTED TO BE FRIENDS TODAY, SURELY WE'D ALSO LIKE TO KNOW EACH OTHER'S HOBBIES?
WHAT DO YOU LIKE, MINE-SENSEI? SPORTS? CARS?
...

I SAID, I'D READ IT LATER.
HOW TROUBLESOME
...
CAN YOU READ IT JUST ONCE BEFORE YOUR FOOD IS SERVED?
IF POSSIBLE, THAT STORY-BOARD...
WHY...?
WOULD THERE BE A PROBLEM IF YOU DIDN'T COERCE ME INTO READING IT RIGHT AWAY?

I-I REALLY APOLOGIZE! IT WAS RIDICULOUSLY DISCOURTEOUS OF ME! KAGAMI-SENSEI! I HAVE NO SUCH INTENTION AT ALL... WE'RE JUST--
!?
PLEASE, SENSEI.
!
WE NEED YOUR ADVICE FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER
THIS CONCERNS A JUNIOR AUTHOR IN NEED OF YOUR ASSISTANCE, KAGAMI-SENSEI.
WHAT IS IT, ACTUALLY?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS THIS JUNIOR AUTHOR...

YOU'RE ASKING FOR ADVICE FROM A PROFESSIONAL ON A STORYBOARD. I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE WEIRD FOR ME TO CHARGE YOU FOR IT.
I'M A PROFESSIONAL.
I DON'T KNOW HOW PRECIOUS THIS JUNIOR AUTHOR IS TO YOU TWO, BUT..
EVEN ABERRANT BEHAVIOR HAS ITS LIMITS, YOU KNOW?
REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE MATTER IS. .
ピクッ!
WHAT YOU SAID IS TRUE.
HOWEVER, WE AREN'T ASKING ARBITRARILY.
I REALIZE THAT WE FORGOT OUR MANNERS AND ASKED REPEATEDLY.
IF YOU WOULD GIVE YOUR ADVICE REGARDING THIS STORYBOARD, THEN...
DID YOU THINK I WOULD COOPERATE?
...!
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO SHARE SOME ADVICE ON A JUNIOR AUTHOR WHOSE FACE I DON'T EVEN KNOW?

I'LL CONSIDER THE MATTER YOU ASKED LAST TIME ABOUT MAKING MANGA ADAPTIONS OF YOUR BOOKS.
!
MI...
MINE-SENSEI?
OF COURSE, THE AUTHOR WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW YOUR ADVICE AND MAKE BEST USE OF IT TO CARRY HIS WORK IN THE BEST DIRECTION.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE YOU WON'T ACCEPT MY BOOKS' ADAPTATION IF I DON'T ACCEPT YOUR TERMS~
はっ
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
FINE, WHATEVER
……!

WELL THEN, LET ME READ THIS STORYBOARD NOW.
I SUDDENLY BECAME INTERESTED SINCE YOU ACTUALLY CARE THIS MUCH ABOUT THIS JUNIOR AUTHOR.

EVEN THE PEERLESS MINE RYUUJIROU HAS GONE SO FAR AS TO BOW HIS HEAD...
AND IN REGARDS TO MAKING MANGA ADAPTATIONS OUT OF MY BOOKS, I WANTED TO SAY THAT I'D LIKE TO GIVE IT A TRY BECAUSE I HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE.

Showdown with DZMA, a top-class group of manga authors in the industry!! What is Hinata's secret plan to lead Kouta to victory?!

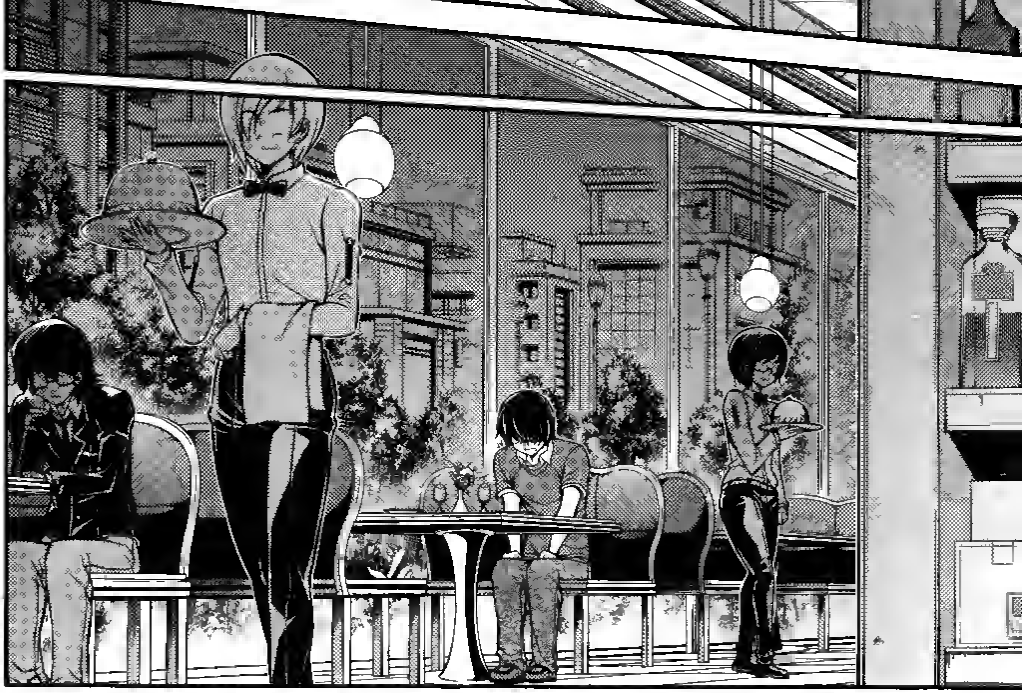
REALLY!?
KA-KA-KAGAMI RINNE-SENSEI!?
SHE'LL GIVE ADVICE ON MY WORK!?
OH, MY. DO YOU LIKE HER? KAGAMI RINNE..

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SAKOMIZU-SAN, YOU DON'T READ THEM?! KAGAMI-SENSEI'S BOOKS!?
I-I don't really like novels!

AWESOME!
I'VE READ HER BOOKS TOO!
OF COURSE I DO! HER STUFF IS CONSIDERED THE BIBLE AMONG TEEN NOVELS, YOU KNOW!
I KNOW HER TOO. A-AT LEAST I'VE HEARD OF HER NAME.

ANYWAY,
IT SEEMS LIKE JUJIMONJI-SAN HAS SHOWN YOUR STORYBOARD TO KAGAMI-SENSEI HERSELF, INAMINE-KUN...
KAGAMI-SENSEI HERSELF SAID SHE'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE...
...!
CHIEF EDITOR JUJIMONJI...
SHE WENT THAT FAR TO HELP ME...
SHE REALLY HATES OZMA, DOESN'T SHE?
まったく～
Seriously
I WONDER ABOUT THAT!
かぁ
!
I HEARD SHE QUITE LIKED IT.
うわ～
AND AFTER SHE HEARD ABOUT YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES,

WHAT IF SHE'S APPARENTLY INTERESTED IN YOU, INAMINE-KUN?
What?
WHAAAAAT?!
BOTH MINE-SENSEI AND CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI MIGHT LOOK STRICT ON THE OUTSIDE,
BUT THEY HAVE AN INTEREST IN YOUR TALENT.
Oh, about that
AH, UMM, THAT..
BUT I DIGRESS...
PLEASE PREPARE TO GO OUT IMMEDIATELY. WE HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH KAGAMI SENSEI.
Right now...?



It's good that I can get it as the seat has been booked, though
そわそわ
T-this is my first time ever entering a cafe this expensive-looking...

ARE YOU INAMINE KOUTA...?
びくっ
Having meals at this kind of place will be an everyday thing...
I wonder if I become as famous as Kagami-sensei...
…
なん

KA-KAGAMI RINNE... SENSEI!?
GOOD DAY.
I-IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO MEET YOU!!
I GOT HERE TEN MINUTES AHEAD OF THE APPOINTED TIME, BUT AREN'T YOU EARLY...
T-TO THINK THAT YOU GRACIOUSLY MADE TIME TO MEET SOMEONE LIKE ME...
A-ALSO, MY... MY WORK...
...
THANK YOU FOR READING IT... UMM... I MEAN...

HEY, MR. JUNIOR AUTHOR.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THAT TENSE, YOU KNOW?

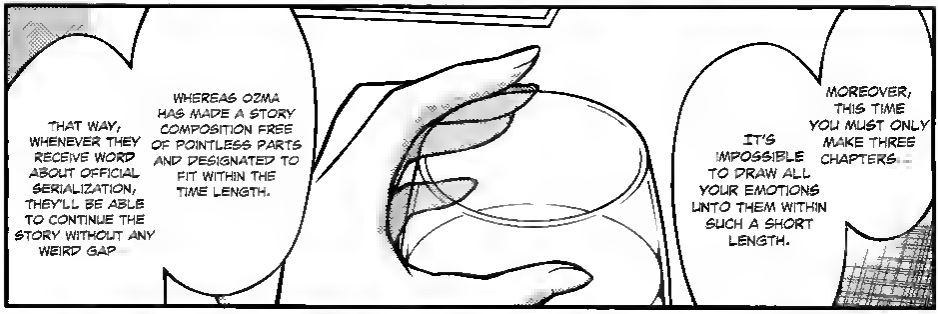
I WAS JUST ASKED BY JUUMONJI- SAN AND MINE-SENSEI,
TO COME AND GIVE YOU SOME SIMPLE ADVICE.
MI-MINE-SENSEI DID THAT...
FOR ME...?

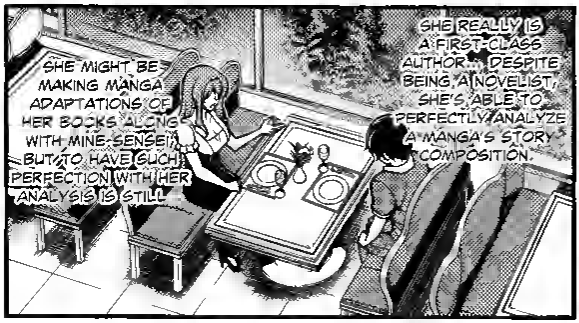
SO... I HEARD YOU'RE HAVING A MATCH WITH THAT OZMA?
AND THAT YOU RANKED SECOND FOR THE FIRST CHAPTER OF THE THREE-CHAPTER SHORT SERIALIZATION...
...!
EVEN THE SECOND PLACE WAS ALREADY AN HONOR.
ALSO, THANKS TO JUJIMONJI-SAN'S AND MINE-SENSEI'S COOPERATION...
THAT'S RIGHT. DESPITE BEING MANGA, YOUR WORK FEELS LIKE A POEM OR SONG LYRICS IN THE SENSE THAT IT'S SOMEWHAT AIRY...
HENCE, IT WOULD BE BARELY POSSIBLE FOR IT TO WIN AGAINST OZMA.
ズキッ ズキッ
HOWEVER, YOU DREW AND EXPRESSED YOUR CHARACTERS' EMOTIONS WELL!
I DID...?
YOU'VE GOT TALENT.
THE TALENT TO IMAGINE YOUR CHARACTERS' EMOTIONS AND EXPRESS THEM TO YOUR READERS.

WOULD YOU GIVE US A LITTLE MORE TIME TO DECIDE ON OUR ORDERS?
スッ
MOST CERTAINLY, MA'AM.
PLEASE DO TAKE YOUR TIME.
A-ARE YOU SAYING THAT I... I'VE GOT TALENT?
YES, PERHAPS.
EVEN THOUGH I MIGHT NOT LOOK LIKE IT, I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN MY ABILITY TO ASSESS PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR EYES.
KA-KAGAMI-SENSEI SAID I'VE GOT TALENT!!
KAGAMI-SENSEI SAID... I...
AHAHA, YOU'RE INTERESTING.

HOWEVER, THAT TALENT...
MIGHT NOT BE SUITED FOR MANGA.
!?
REALLY?
WHAT'S WRONG? SURPRISED?
I DIDN'T SAY A SINGLE WORD ABOUT YOU HAVING A TALENT FOR MANGA, DID I?
IF I MAY SAY, PERHAPS YOU'RE MORE SUITED TO BECOMING A NOVELIST.
HAVING THE TALENT TO IMAGINE AND EXPRESS YOUR EMOTIONS TO THE READERS IS BLISS FOR AN AUTHOR, BUT
I THINK IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE PROPRIETIES OF MANGA CREATION
...!

I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF READING YOUR SHORT STORY, BUT...
OVERALL, THE RHYTHM IS BAD. MANY READERS MAY FEEL THAT IT'S REPETITIOUS.
FUNDAMENTALLY, A MANGA IS SUPPOSED TO BE EASIER TO READ AND HAVE FASTER DEVELOPMENT THAN A NOVEL, RIGHT?


MOREOVER, THIS TIME YOU MUST ONLY MAKE THREE CHAPTERS...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO DRAW ALL YOUR EMOTIONS INTO THEM WITHIN SUCH A SHORT LENGTH.
WHEREAS OZMA HAS MADE A STORY COMPOSITION FREE OF POINTLESS PARTS AND DESIGNATED TO FIT WITHIN THE TIME LENGTH.
THAT WAY, WHENEVER THEY RECEIVE WORD ABOUT OFFICIAL SERIALIZATION, THEY'LL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THE STORY WITHOUT ANY WEIRD GAP


SHE REALLY IS A FIRST-CLASS AUTHOR... DESPITE BEING A NOVELIST, SHE'S ABLE TO PERFECTLY ANALYZE A MANGA'S STORY COMPOSITION.
SHE MIGHT BE MAKING MANGA ADAPTATIONS OF HER BOOKS ALONG WITH MINE-SENSEI, BUT TO HAVE SUCH PERFECTION WITH HER ANALYSIS IS STILL

HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING?

THEY ALSO MET THE DEADLINE FOR THE FIRST CHAPTER PERFECTLY RIGHT?
A-amazing...

Y-YES! OF COURSE I AM!
...
YOU KNOW ABOUT THE INTERSECTION PRINCIPLE?
!?
WELL, ABOUT THE ADVICE I WANTED TO GIVE YOU...
...
I...
INTERSECTION... PRINCIPLE..?
THAT'S RIGHT.
THE IDEA OF WRITING MORE THAN TWO COURSES OF EVENTS CONCURRENTLY HAPPENING AND INTEGRATING THEM INTO ONE PLOT FLOW IN THE END
IT'S USUALLY USED BY MULTIPLE AUTHORS COLLABORATING TO WRITE A RELAY NOVEL.
Intersection principle

IN YOUR SHORT STORY,
THERE'S THE TRAGIC HEROINE...
AND THE MAIN CHARACTER WHO BETRAYS HER AND SUFFERS...
HOW ABOUT MAKING THEIR VIEWPOINTS CROSS?
ドン
THEIR VIEWPOINTS...?
YEAH. YOU CAN WRITE A CHAPTER REVOLVING AROUND THE MAIN CHARACTER'S PROBLEMS...
AND THE HEROINE FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER, WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE MAIN CHARACTER
FROM HER PERSPECTIVE, OF COURSE.
THEN YOU RETURN TO THE MAIN CHARACTER'S PERSPECTIVE AND FILL THE GAP FROM HIS VIEWPOINT.
ドクン
ドクン
ドクン

IF YOU DO IT LIKE THAT, I THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO INTERLINK THE TWO CHAPTERS WITHOUT LOSING YOUR READERS' INTEREST AND MAKING THEM WAIT FOR EVERY NEXT CHAPTER MORE ENTHUSIASTICALLY.
BESIDES, AFTER YOU INTERLINK BOTH VIEWPOINTS, THE PLOT WILL HAVE MORE IMPACT FROM THE THIRD CHAPTER ONWARD.
MOREOVER, BY ADJUSTING THE WAY YOU TELL THE STORY JUST A LITTLE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THE PLOT AS YOU ORIGINALLY PLANNED.
THOUGH, WELL, WHETHER IT'LL BE INTERESTING OR NOT...
DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON YOURSELF, INAMINE-KUN.

She's too amazing...!!
Well, I guess that's about it~
So this is what a true pro is like!?

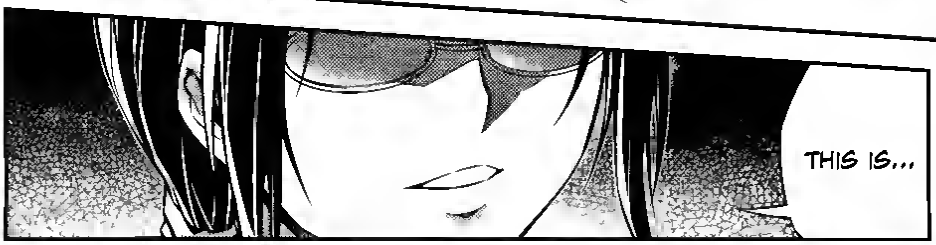
Just by a few words from Kagami-sensei

The story composition I had in my mind that was unclear up until now...
Instantly changed...

Their meet up... I wonder if it's going well...?
うんん
Maybe I should try calling once
ピッ
No! It doesn't even concern our company
If I contact him personally it may cause a misunderstanding
ピッ
ピッ
キィ
Eh...?
ピッ

EEEEH!?
I forgot about the photos Hinata-senpai took and saved on here!!
Something like this has to be deleted immediately!
ん?
Delete! I'm deleting them all!!
ピッ
ピピッ
Quickly, quickly!!
This one...

If it's just one image!
I guess I'll let it stay...
ピッ
ピッ
かぁ
THE NEXT MONTH
AUGUST 25, THE LAUNCH OF COMIC SPLASH SEPTEMBER EDITION.
ドーン
ON SALE


THIS IS...

THE SECOND CHAPTER WRITTEN BY THAT INAMINE KOUTA...?

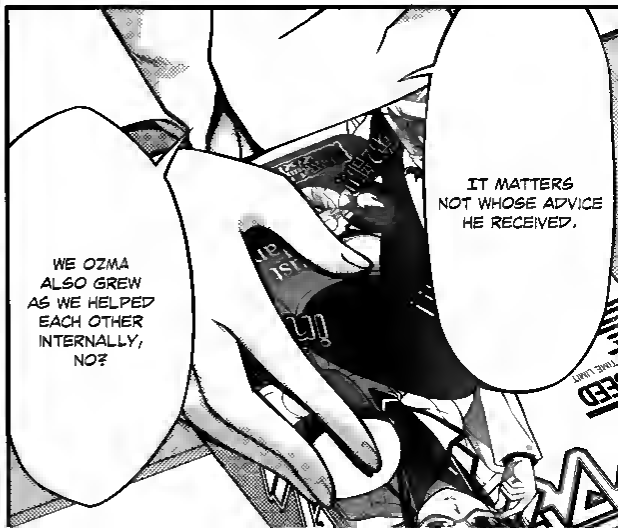
He really took us by surprise.
Who would've thought his first chapter was just foreshadowing...
He changed the viewpoint to be from the heroine's perspective in the second chapter...
And was able to magnificently interlink the plot.
Furthermore, by doing so, he's nicely drawing his readers enthusiasm over how the two main characters relationship will unfold.
As a result, this work, that looked like it had the tendencies to rush and get emotional...
has changed into one that gives off considerable impact.
I tried investigating...
...
He can't be a pedophile, huh...

IT SEEMS LIKE HE WAS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF KAGAMI RINNE, THE NOVELIST FROM COMICALIZE...
ざわ
WHAT!? THAT NOVELIST WOMAN?!
THAT KAGAMI RINNE, WHOSE BOOK SALES ARE IN THE MILLIONS!?
……!

HOW UNFAIR..
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, ISN'T THIS FOUL PLAY?
SHOULDN'T WE OBJECT TO THIS...?

CALM DOWN.
ビク

YOU SHOULD KNOW.., WHOEVER GUIDED HIM AND WHATEVER ADVICE WAS GIVEN ARE OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE


IT MATTERS NOT WHOSE ADVICE HE RECEIVED.
WE OZMA ALSO GREW AS WE HELPED EACH OTHER INTERNALLY, NO?

HOW HE TOOK THE ADVICE AND APPLIED IT ON HIS WORK... NOW THAT'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I THINK IT'S GOOD...
Eh?
え?
THERE'S NO WAY MY SECOND CHAPTER COULD MATCH HIS...
BUT YOU RANKED SECOND, AIKAWA...
SO NOW YOU TWO ARE AT A TIE.
...
THIS GUY...
HE'S REALLY AMAZING...
HEY, AIKAWA.
JUST BECAUSE YOU LOST THIS ONCE, YOU SHOULDN'T BLAME YOUR MANAGER...
スッ
NO.
....?
Is she really feeling down?
I guess anyone would if they had to see this much difference in merely one chapter...

ビクッ
UH, WHA!?
IT'S BECAUSE SOMEONE AS SKILLED AS HIM HAD TO BE MY OPPONENT,
I ABSOLUTELY DON'T WANT TO LOSE!!
I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THE STORYBOARD FOR THE THIRD CHAPTER WITH THE MANAGER RIGHT AWAY!
MAY I ASK YOU TO PLEASE ASSEMBLE THE MEETING...?
EH? EH!?
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PLEASE!!
ドキ
Man, wasn't that heart-pounding!
Really, I mean right away!
G-GOT IT! I'LL TRY ASKING RIGHT AWAY!

WELL, BUT...
THIS SHOULD REASSURE YOU ABOUT OUR FUTURE, RIGHT, OOMURA-SAN?
スッ
スッ
CONGRATULATIONS! YOU WON!

WHOAA!!
HE GOT FIRST PLACE!? REALLY?!
MEH, I WAS ONLY USING MY FEET TO WORK ON IT...
BUT NEVERTHELESS, WINNING DOES FEEL GOOD.
YOU DID IT, INAMINE-SENSEI!
...
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU'RE NOT HAPPY THAT YOU WON?
...!
N-NO, NOT THAT...
I'M GLAD...

I'M TOO...
!
HAPPY...
…!
AND THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE AROUND ME WHO ARE HAPPY FOR ME...
THAT I WON...
MAKES ME REALLY, REALLY HAPPY...
すっ
YOU KNOW, IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU'VE DONE YOUR BEST.
HOWEVER, IT'S NOT OVER.
…!
YOU STILL HAVE THE THIRD CHAPTER.

KEEP GOING LIKE THAT AND WIN THE LAST CHAPTER AS WELL,
INAMINE-KUN.
ぐすっ
I'LL DO MY BEST!

カタ
カタ
SO...
SINCE OUR DEAR JUNIOR AUTHOR WON, IT'S ENOUGH NOW, RIGHT?
YES, KAGAMI-SENSEI
THIS IS ALL THANKS TO YOU!
I TRULY...
I TRULY THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU'VE DONE!!
...
AREN'T YOU AWFULLY DELIGHTED BY AN AUTHOR WHO ISN'T EVEN FROM YOUR COMPANY, CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI?
I AM...!?

T-THAT'S RIGHT. WHY SHOULD I BE DELIGHTED?
HE'S NOT EVEN FROM MY COMPANY... AHAHA
...
WELL, ANYWAY, HE DID WELL, SO THAT'S GOOD...
ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU SHIFTED YOUR THOUGHTS TO ME?
HUH...?
I HAVEN'T RECEIVED THE PHOTO OF THE SHOP I ASKED FOR LAST TIME.
I NEED IT FOR SCENERY REFERENCE.
EH!? I ALREADY TOOK THE PHOTO A WHILE AGO. I HAVEN'T SENT IT!?
I WOULDN'T BE ASKING YOU IF I HAD RECEIVED IT...
MY APOLOGIES! I'LL SEND IT IMMEDIATELY!
FOR THE TIME BEING, I'LL SEND THE BACK UP I HAVE ON MY PHONE FIRST
WELL, ANYTHING IS FINE. CAN YOU PLEASE SEND IT QUICKLY?
I WOULD HATE TO HAVE MY WORK INTERRUPTED MIDWAY.
FORGIVE ME. I'LL MAIL YOU AT ONCE!
...

カタ
カタ
カタ
OpenCafe
So...seems like he's really something.
That junior author... what was his name again...?
THE EMAIL FROM JUUMONJI-SAN SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED BY NOW...
When he's done with his work, I'll make sure to read it at least once
Winning against OZMA
ズッ
ズズッ
AH, THAT'S RIGHT!

カチ
…
カチッ
カチッ
……?
……!?
WHA... WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS...?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
THE REASON WHY CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI UNNATURALLY CARES ABOUT THAT KID SO MUCH...

IS BECAUSE... THEY HAVE THIS KIND OF RELATIONSHIP...
Such cardinal mistake! This is bad!!
痛恨のミス！これはマズい!!
今月も2話一挙掲載!!
第18話はこの後すぐ!!

I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THIS CHAPTER... 8 WEEKS? SEEMS RIGHT. THIS IS, HANDS DOWN, THE MOST DIFFICULT CHAPTER I HAVE EVER WORKED ON. IF PSYBURN HAD NOT CAME TO MY RESCUE I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHEN THIS CHAPTER WOULD HAVE BEEN RELEASED. THANKS PSY, I OWE YOU ONE. ANYWAY, RECRUITING. FTH SCANS IS NOW IN OPEN RECRUITING. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. SO PLEASE, FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, APPLY! WE NEED RECRUITS! WE ARE RECRUITING ALL POSITIONS.

-DIABEATS

I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY I KNOW THIS CHAPTER WAS A LONG TIME COMING, AND I THANK YOU, THE FANS, FOR STICKING WITH US AS WE WORK TO BRING YOU THE MANGA YOU LOVE. IT WAS A BUMMER WATCHING DIABEATS LOSE HIS MIND TRYING TO GET THIS OUT TO YOU GUYS, AND LUCKILY WE GOT SOME HELP HALFWAY THROUGH. NOT ONLY THIS PROJECT, BUT OTHERS, COULD DEFINITELY USE SOME EXTRA MANPOWER. AS DIABEATS SAID, YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE EXPERIENCE, WE'RE WILLING TO HELP YOU LEARN. SO IF YOU'VE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT JUMPING INTO SCANLATION, I WOULD LOVE IT IF YOU COULD VISIT THE RECRUITING POST ON FTH-SCANS.COM, OR POP INTO OUR IRC CHANNEL, #HALIBUT ON IRCHIGHWAY, AND LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE TO HELP. THANKS FOR READING, YOUR VIEWS ARE THE THINGS THAT MAKE ALL OF THIS WORTH IT. HOPE YOU CONTINUE ENJOYING OUR WORK.

-SEISMIC

FTH
scans
18
Kolmoko
raw NJMANGA
translator Ignis
cleaner Diabeats•Rayuaza•psyburn21
typesetter SeismiC
quality checker SeismiC•ZeroVectra
fth-scans.com

耕太と十文字編集長との激写を見てしばし呆然…!?

SHE'S SLIGHTLY DUMBFOUNDED AFTER SEEING THE OUTRAGEOUS PHOTO FEATURING KOUTA AND CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI!

コミックス①～④巻・全国書店で好評発売中!

こいもく

CIMOC

STORY OF CARTOONIST AND TRUE LOVE / PRESENTED BY ARTLIM MEDIA

第18話

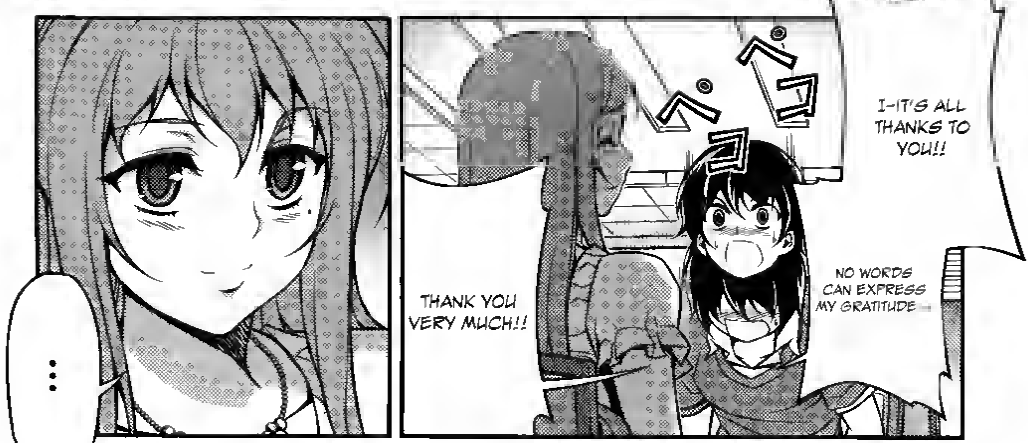
原作 林達

作画 海

Coeredo Hotel
YOU'RE... INAMINE-KUN, RIGHT?
AH, YES...
SORRY FOR CALLING YOU OUT SO SUDDENLY WHILE YOU'RE BUSY PREPARING THE THIRD CHAPTER.
N-NO! IT'S OKAY!

ERR...
I ALSO THOUGHT I SHOULD PROPERLY GREET YOU AT LEAST ONCE.
THANKS FOR YOUR GUIDANCE, KAGAMI-SENSEI, ON THE PREVIOUS MATCH. .

I HEARD YOU WON? CONGRATULATIONS~


...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!
ペコ
ペコ
I-IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU!!
NO WORDS CAN EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE~

Sooo, this kid and Chief Editor Juumonji are...
だら だら
Hmm, I wonder if one tends to be attracted to guys like him after being in this industry for a long time..
I truly felt your magnificence firsthand...
Hmm, is your gratitude just all talk?
Eh?
If you really are grateful to me, you're supposed to do something to express it.
Don't you think so?
トントン
In that case, I'll do anything! Even a naked dance!
No, stop right there.
You've got quite the taste.
Well, anyhow..
カラッ

HOW ABOUT... WORKING TOGETHER WITH ME?
!?
WELL, I WAS GIVEN THE PLEASURE OF READING YOUR WORK THOROUGHLY...
IT WAS PRETTY INTERESTING.
えぇ?!
YEAH, IN TERMS OF RAW TALENT, YOU MAY EVEN SURPASS MINE RYUUJIROU... OR SO I THINK.
TH-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I DISCIPLINE MYSELF TO AVOID JOKES WHEN IT CONCERNS WORK.

I'M PROUD OF MY ABILITY, WHICH EVEN SURPASSES EDITORS, TO SEE SOMEONE'S LATENT TALENT.
WHICH IS A GIVEN, SINCE I'M AN AUTHOR MYSELF.
I RARELY PUT IT INTO WORDS, THOUGH... BECAUSE I THINK IT'LL GIVE BIRTH TO NEW RIVALS IN THE SAME INDUSTRY.
BUT YOU'RE NOT A NOVELIST, INAMINE-KUN, SO...
I'M MERELY TELLING YOU THE TRUTH.
...
THAT SAID, I HAVE AN OFFER TO MAKE YOU. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
INAMINE-KUN, WON'T YOU TRY MAKING A NEW MANGA WITH ME?
!
I CAN GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL BE SERIALIZED IN WHATEVER KIND OF MAGAZINE YOU WISH.

I... I APPRECIATE YOUR OFFER, BUT...
...?
I'D LIKE TO...
DO MY NEXT WORK ON MY OWN.
...
W-WELL, NOT THAT I'LL DO EVERYTHING MYSELF...
I THINK I'LL BE GETTING HELP FROM SAWANOGUCHI-SAN, CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI, AND THE OTHERS YET AGAIN...

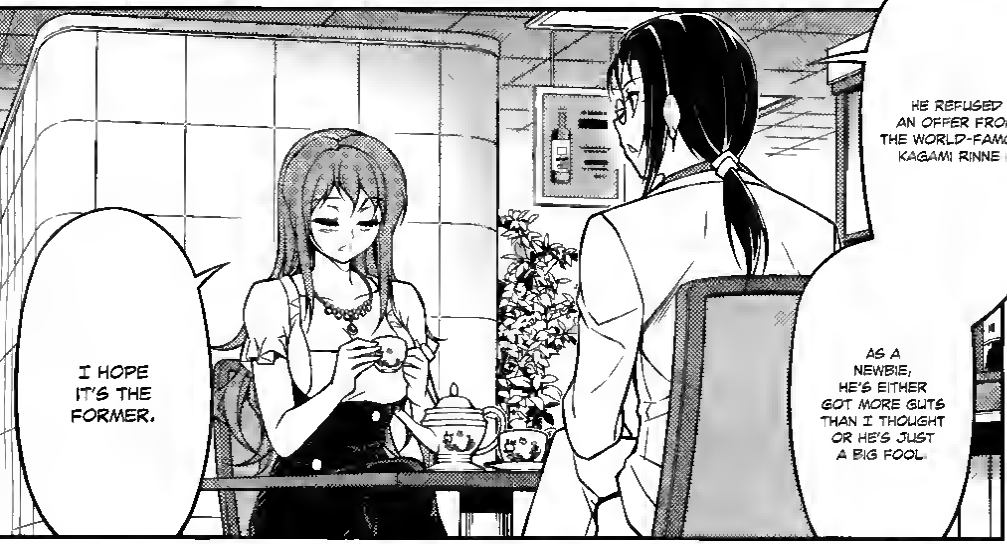
I OWE MANY PEOPLE FOR HELPING ME GET TO WHERE I STAND RIGHT NOW...
FOR THAT VERY REASON, MY NEXT WORK...
I'D LIKE TO DO IT MYSELF TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.
"I'VE DONE MY BEST ON MY OWN UP UNTIL NOW!" THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO SHOW...
TO THE TWO CHIEF EDITORS WHO HAVE HELPED ME...
THAT'S A WEIRD INCENTIVE...
CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI HAS NO RELATION WHATSOEVER TO THE SERIALIZATION BEING RUN ON SPLASH, DOES SHE?
EH?
T-THAT'S... WELL, THAT'S TRUE...

SHE WAS HELPING ME WITH VARIOUS THINGS THE ENTIRE TIME.
BEFORE I KNEW IT, IT FELT LIKE SHE WAS MY REAL SUPERVISOR.
はは
…
ACTUALLY, EVEN JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE, I WAS ALSO UNDER THE CARE OF HEAT.
DURING THAT TIME, SHE LOOKED AFTER ME.
I UNDERSTAND. YOU CAN GO NOW.
びく
…?
WHAT
I NOW UNDERSTAND HOW YOU THINK, INAMINE-KUN...
I'M SAYING YOU MAY GO HOME NOW.

I wonder if I somehow offended her...
She looked a little scary
...
I'll make my own way!
But now she's in a partnership with Mine-sensei... I mustn't disturb her.

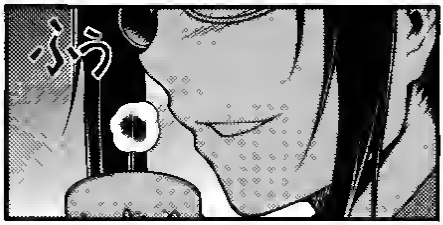
So I was turned down
By a green boy like him...
…
ガバッ
ガバッ
Seriously, youngsters nowadays know nothing about courtesy...
He rejected me without even thinking!
ARE YOU ALONE HERE?

IS THAT SO...?


HE REFUSED AN OFFER FROM THE WORLD-FAMOUS KAGAMI RINNE!!
AS A NEWBIE, HE'S EITHER GOT MORE GUTS THAN I THOUGHT OR HE'S JUST A BIG FOOL.
I HOPE IT'S THE FORMER.

NEVERTHE-LESS!! I WONDER IF THIS BASICALLY MEANS THAT OUR PLAN HAS ENTIRELY BEEN FOILED.
カチャ

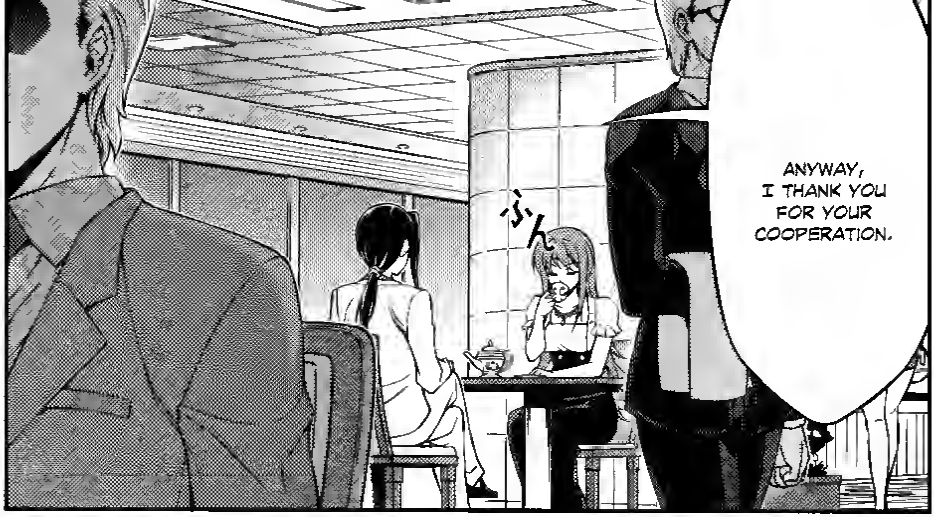
OTHER-WISE, I'LL START HAVING BAD OPINIONS ABOUT THE INDUS-TRY FROM NOW ON


ふう

I BELIEVE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN QUITE A VIABLE PLAN...
THIS IS MOST UNFORTUNATE.
HE MIGHT BE HIGHLY TALENTED, BUT HE LACKS EXPERIENCE. ALSO, HE DOESN'T HAVE ASSISTANTS WHO CAN HELP HIM WITH THAT..
AND IF WE WERE TO ADD YOUR BEST WORK INTO IT...
OZMA COULD COVER INAMINE KOUTA'S WEAKNESS,

IN THE END, YOU JUST WANTED TO USE ME AS A PRETEXT AND LURE HIM AWAY FROM SPLASH, RIGHT?
DID YOU ACTUALLY HAVE SUCH A DIRTY PLAN?

WHY, DIDN'T YOU ALSO WANT A PAWN WHO COULD KEEP EIDANSHA RESTRAINED, SENSEI?
IT IS SUCH A DISAPPOINTMENT THAT BOTH OF OUR PLANS WERE FOILED.


ふん
ANYWAY, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

…
CAN I ASK FOR YOUR GUIDANCE ON THE LAST CHAPTER OF THIS THREE CHAPTER MATCH?
OF COURSE I WILL COMPENSATE YOU WITH THE MOST SUITABLE GRATITUDE.

WHILE WE'RE AT IT, I HAVE ONE MORE FAVOR TO ASK...

MY INTEREST HAS COOLED DOWN

I'M ALSO PLANNING TO REFUSE GUIDING INAMINE-KUN.

MOREOVER, IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S INVOLVED WITH VARIOUS PRIVATE MATTERS. IT MAY GET TROUBLESOME
…?

SORRY, I WILL HAVE TO REFUSE.
…?
ﾆﾔ

PRIVATE MATTERS? YOU MEAN BETWEEN INAMINE AND CHIEF EDITOR SAWANOGUCHI...?
WITH THAT WOMAN? I DON'T THINK IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, BUT...
CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI. . WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT SHE WOULD INTERPOSE HER PERSONAL FEELINGS WITH WORK--?
JUUMONJI...? YOU MEAN JUUMONJI FROM COMIC HEAT?
THAT JUUMONJI INTERPOSES HER PERSONAL FEELINGS WITH WORK?
COULD IT BE... INAMINE KOUTA AND JUUMONJI-SAN ARE--
YOU KNOW, IT FEELS LIKE HER BOYFRIEND IS HER MOTIVATION.

THAT'S ABSURD. THE VERY IDEA OF CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI AND INAMINE KOUTA
ふん
AREN'T YOU JUST BEING EMOTIONAL AFTER HAVING YOUR OFFER REJECTED?
I'VE EVEN GOT SOLID EVIDENCE... WANNA TAKE A LOOK?
すっ
M-MY, SILLY ME...
WHAT WAS I THINKING? THIS CONCERNS SOMEONE ELSE'S PRIVACY...
T-THIS CONVERSATION IS OVER, OKAY? I'LL BE GOING AHEAD!!
…

DO YOU HAVE A PHOTO OR SOMETHING...
PLEASE WAIT A SECOND, KAGAMI-SENSE!!
IS WHAT YOU JUST SAID TRUE?
THEY HAVE THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP?
...THAT CAN PROVE THAT?
L-LET'S DROP THIS TOPIC.
ゴホン
…!?
EVEN IF IT'S TRUE, THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH A YOUNG MAN BEING IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH A YOUNG WOMAN, IS THERE?

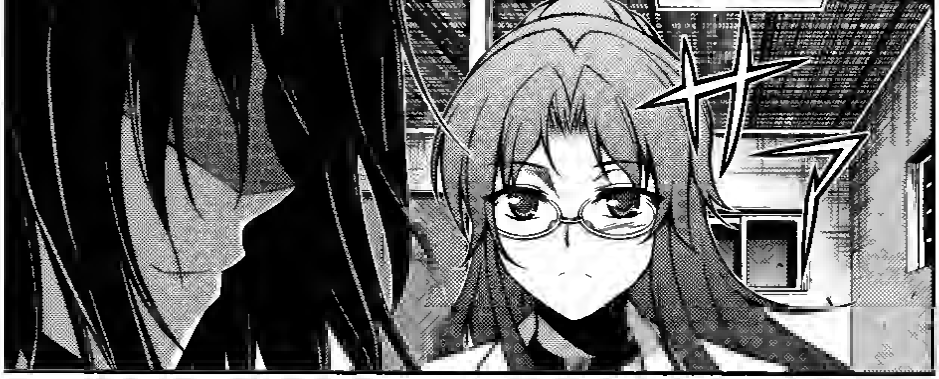
PLEASE PRETEND YOU DIDN'T HEAR WHAT I WAS SAYING~
…
ほほ
MY, I MUST BE GETTING OLD. I TEND TO RUN OFF AT THE MOUTH NOWADAYS~
ゴッ
ゴッ
ふ~む

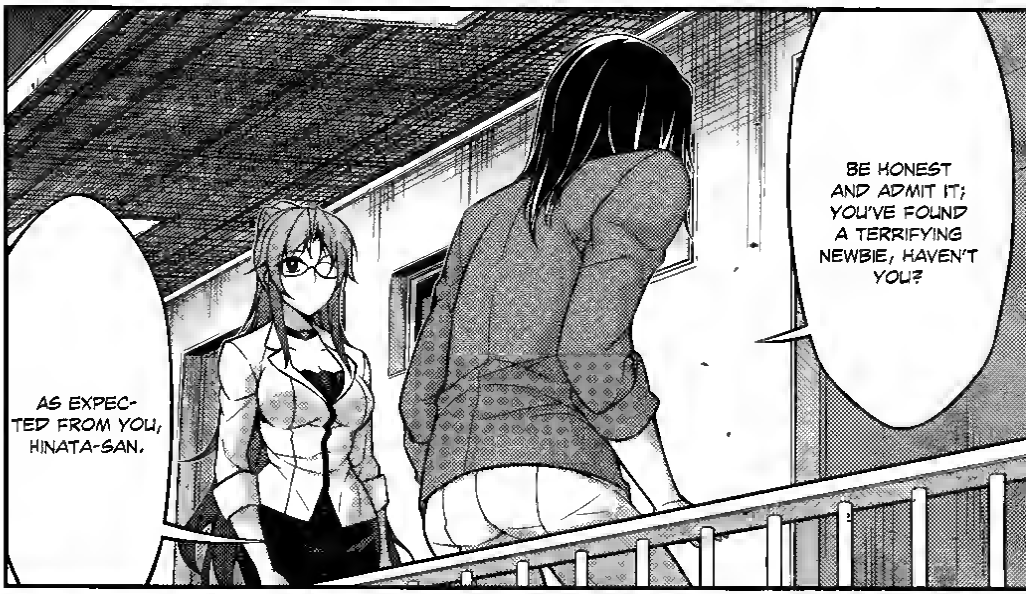
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH REACTIONS TO A MERE SHORT SERIALIZATION....
NOT JUST FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRES. HE SEEMS TO BE GAINING POPULARITY ONLINE AS WELL!
REACTIONS TO INAMINE KOUTA'S WORK ARE AMAZING, CHIEF EDITOR!!
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR. LET'S HOPE THE THIRD CHAPTER WILL BE GREAT TOO~
YOU'LL ASK HIM AGAIN AFTER THE CURRENT SHORT SERIALIZATION HAS ENDED, RIGHT?
THIS TIME FOR A LONG SERIALIZATION, OF COURSE!
WELL, THAT'D BE THE PROPER THING TO DO.
WELL THEN, PLEASE LET ME SUPERVISE THAT WORK.
ピクッ

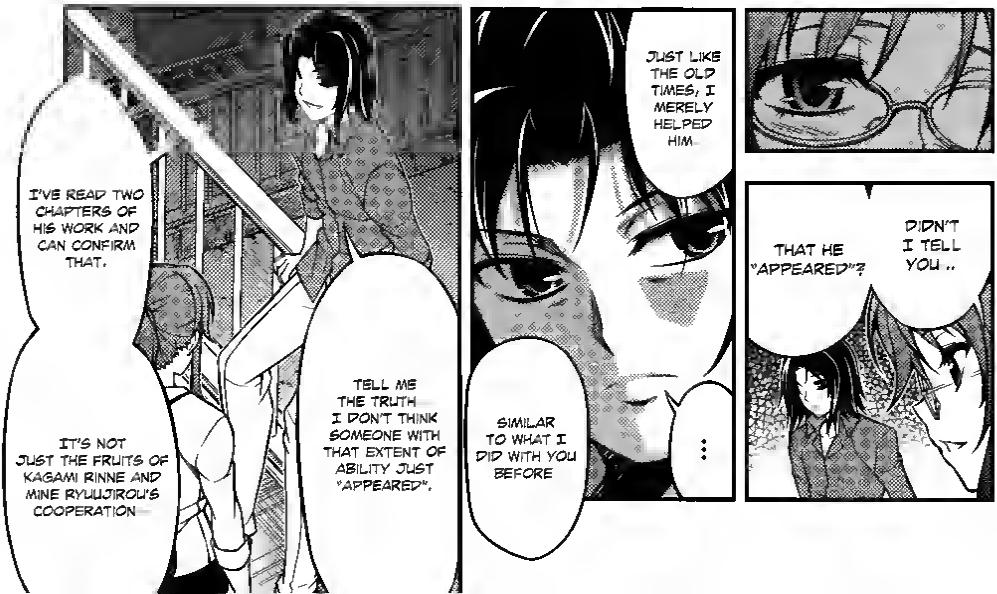
PLEASE LET ME HANDLE THE SUPERVISION TASK, CHIEF EDITOR!!
WHATCHA DOIN', STEALIN' A MARCH ON US!? I WANNA DO IT MESELF!
えぇ!?
I'D LIKE TO HAVE A WARM CONVERSATION WITH A FELLOW NEWCOMER LIKE HIM! PLEASE LET ME!!
YOU IDIOT. WHO'D DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!?
THERE'S NO HELPING IF IT'S COME TO THIS! HOW ABOUT WE SETTLE IT WITH ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!?
…
ガチャ
ザワ
ザワ
CHIEF EDITOR, YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL.
AH, PASS IT ON.
YES, THIS IS SAWANOGUCHI FROM SPLASH.
!?
HOW ARE YOU DOING, SAWANOGUCHI-SAN?
サア

OOMURA-SAN.
ごろごろ
カッ
SO YOU GOT HERE EARLY...

HOW RESERVED. YOU KNOW, YOU CAN CALL ME SHOUGO LIKE YOU USED TO, HINATA-SAN.
IS THAT SO? WELL, I WON'T HESITATE TO.
SO THAT ROOM HAS NOW BEEN RENTED BY INAMINE..
...
YOU STILL REMEMBER, DON'T YOU? BACK THEN, IT WAS MY ROOM.
AND YOU STILL REMEMBER IT, SHOUGO-KUN? HOW UNEXPECTED.
I THOUGHT EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED HERE IN THE PAST WOULD'VE BEEN FORGOTTEN..
THERE'S NO WAY I'D FORGET IT..
THIS PLACE IS MY HOMETOWN, AFTER ALL.




BE HONEST AND ADMIT IT; YOU'VE FOUND A TERRIFYING NEWBIE, HAVEN'T YOU?
AS EXPECTED FROM YOU, HINATA-SAN.


I'VE READ TWO CHAPTERS OF HIS WORK AND CAN CONFIRM THAT.
IT'S NOT JUST THE FRUITS OF KAGAMI RINNE AND MINE RYUUJIROU'S COOPERATION—
TELL ME THE TRUTH I DON'T THINK SOMEONE WITH THAT EXTENT OF ABILITY JUST "APPEARED".
SIMILAR TO WHAT I DID WITH YOU BEFORE
JUST LIKE THE OLD TIMES, I MERELY HELPED HIM
…
THAT HE "APPEARED"?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU ..

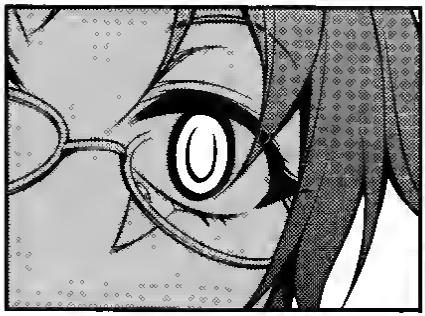
I'M TALKING ABOUT THE TALENT POSSESSED BY THE HUMAN BEING NAMED INAMINE KOUTA...
THAT OVERWHELMING MIGHT.
...
WELL, THANK YOU.
TO THINK THAT YOU KNOW ME SO WELL.
THEN I ASSUME YOU'VE ALSO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING...
WHY I REFUSED TO BE YOURS, SHOUGO-KUN.
すっ
...!?
MY BAD, BUT...
REGARDLESS, I WON'T GIVE UP.

I'M TALKING ABOUT MAKING SAWANOGUCHI HINATA MINE.
SHOUGO-KUN...
THAT'S WHY I FOUNDED OZMA.
I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU
THAT THE WORKS PRODUCED UNDER OUR PERFECTED SYSTEM AND ORGANIZATION ARE SUPERIOR EVEN TO THE ONES PRODUCED BY THE GENIUSES YOU FIND...
FOR THAT VERY REASON, OZMA ABSOLUTELY WON'T LOSE, ESPECIALLY NOT TO YOUR NEW AUTHOR
ORGANIZING A SYSTEM IN ORDER TO MAKE ME YOURS...
WHAT AN ABSURD THING YOU'RE SAYING

IT'S FULL OF THE CONSTANT DESIRE OF SURPASSING YOU!!
RIGHT NOW, OZMA ISN'T THE VANGUARD OF THE INDUSTRY! FOR SUCH A TRIVIAL OBJECTIVE...
...NO; EVERYTHING WE'VE ACHIEVED AS OF NOW IS NO MORE THAN A STEPPING STONE TO OUR GOAL!
OF COURSE, I HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT MY WAYS WILL MAKE US ABLE TO HAUL UP THE INDUSTRY! HOWEVER...

SHOUGO-KUN, IF YOU KEEP CLINGING TO SUCH PETTY SQUABBLE ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING...
YOU WILL NEVER WIN.
...
AS EVIDENCE, YOU COULDN'T BEAT INAMINE-KUN THE LAST TIME, EITHER.
OZMA WILL WIN.

NO... I'LL HAVE YOU LET US WIN.
WHAT ARE YOU...?
THERE'S... THIS PHOTO, RIGHT?
A PHOTO THAT PROVES...
THAT JUJIMONJI SAYAKA AND INAMINE KOUTA ARE IN A ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP
...!?



NO REBUTTAL?
DOES THAT MEAN YOU CAN'T DENY THAT THEY INDEED ARE.

THEY DEFINITELY DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE SEEN THAT MADE YOU SAY THAT, BUT...
NO, WHETHER IT'S TRUE OR NOT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS...

A SCANDAL BETWEEN THE CHIEF EDITOR OF THE INDUSTRY'S NUMBER ONE MAGAZINE AND A YOUNG NEW AUTHOR.
YOU MUST KNOW VERY WELL WHAT KIND OF UPROAR SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD CAUSE.

WHAT MATTERS IS WHAT PEOPLE WILL THINK IF THE PHOTO GETS LEAKED TO THE PUBLIC... AM I WRONG?
...!
YOU SHOULD KNOW WHO WILL BE THE BIGGEST VICTIM OF SUCH A SCANDAL.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, HINATA-SAN?
AND...?
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
PLEASE LOSE.
...!?

WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF THE THIRD CHAPTER MIGHT BE... PLEASE ANNOUNCE OUR WORK AS THE WINNER.
OF COURSE, THAT MAKES INAMINE THE RUNNER-UP.
THAT ALONE IS SUFFICIENT.
S-SHOUGO-KUN... YOU...!
WE ARE OZMA!!

INDEED, IN THE BEGINNING, OZMA WAS FOUNDED TO SURPASS SAWANOGUCHI HINATA.
BUT AS YOU SAID, CURRENTLY OZMA HAS UNFATHOMABLE INFLUENCE ON THE INDUSTRY!
OUR ESTABLISHED PRIDE AS A BRAND THAT WE'VE BUILT UP UNTIL NOW...
THERE'S THE RISK THAT IT WILL CRUMBLE BECAUSE OF THIS!!
OZMA CAN'T LOSE TO AN UNKNOWN NEW AUTHOR!
ON THE OTHER HAND, INAMINE WILL SUSTAIN NO NEGATIVE EFFECT EVEN IF HE LOSES!
INSTEAD, IF HE'S ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE ON PAR WITH OZMA, HIS POPULARITY WILL ALSO INCREASE.
すっ
BUT IT'S DIFFERENT FOR OZMA.
...
A BRAND ...?
PRIDE... YOU SAY...?

WAS SOMEONE WHO GENUINELY LOVED MANGA...
SOMEONE WHO'D BURN HIS PASSION INTO MANGA... SOMEONE MORE DETERMINED THAN ANYONE ELSE.
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED, SHOUGO-KUN...?
YOU WEREN'T ALWAYS THIS KIND OF PERSON, WERE YOU?
THE PERSON WHO LOVED ME..

CHIEF EDITOR SAWANOGUCHI ...
THE OOMURA SHOUGO FROM THAT TIME IS NO MORE.
カッ
WHERE DID THAT OOMURA SHOUGO DISAPPEAR TO?!

I'M OZMA'S MANAGING DIRECTOR, OOMURA SHOUGO...
SOMEONE WHO WILL...
CHANGE THE RULES OF THE MANGA INDUSTRY.
NEITHER OF THEM CAN GO BACK TO THEIR OLD SELF ANY LONGER! HOW WILL THE MATCH BETWEEN INAMINE AND OZMA UNFOLD...?
2012年9月27日●発売予定
11月号に続く!!

FTH
scans
Kuimoku
raw NJMANGA
translator GottErstechen007
cleaners Diabeats•Rayuaza•tactics•Psyburn21
typesetter SeismiC
quality checker AnonMan
fth-scans.com

こいもく

CIMOC

STORY OF CARTOONIST AND TRUE LOVE / PRESENTED BY ARTIMA MEDIA

第19話

既刊コミックス1～3巻
全国書店で好評発売中!!
最新コミックス4巻
好評発売中!!

?

IT WOULD SEEM THAT CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI IS IN A GOOD MOOD

story work 原作 林達永

graphic work 作畫 海源

by ARTIMA MEDIA

前号までのあらすじ

耕太とＯＺＭＡの３話の短期連載勝負は２話目まで終了し、１勝１敗とどちらも譲らない戦いを繰り広げていた。そんな中、合宿時に撮られた怪しげな写真を十文字が流出させてしまい……。

EH?
WE'RE GOING FOR 2ND PLACE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
...
THAT AND WHAT IN THE WORLD IS ALL THIS GOSSIP...
ABOUT ME AND JUUMONJI-SAN?
THERE IS... A PICTURE

WHEN WE WENT TO THE BOARDING HOUSE, WE DRANK TOGETHER AND MADE A BIG RUCKUS, RIGHT?
AND THAT'S WHEN A PICTURE OF A COMPLETELY SMASHED JUUMONJI-SAN EMBRACING YOU WAS TAKEN...
WHE-WHEN DID... WHO TOOK THAT PICTURE...
I WAS THE ONE WHO TOOK IT...
I HALF-MEANT IT AS A JOKE WHEN I DID IT BUT FOR IT TO BECOME THIS SERIOUS A MATTER...
I REALLY AM SORRY...
THE FIRST DAY AT THE BOARDING HOUSE...
BUT AT THAT TIME, CERTAINLY WE...
BUT IT'S UNBELIEVABLE TO THINK THAT ANYTHING HAPPENED BETWEEN ME AND CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI!
ALL WE DID WAS WENT ALL OUT WITH OUR DRINKING, MADE A BIG RUCKUS
AND GREETED THE MORNING COMPLETELY SMASHED, DIDN'T WE?!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF PICTURE IT IS! BUT, WASN'T IT OBVIOUS THAT PEOPLE WOULD MISUNDERSTAND IT?!
AND YET WHY IS CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI'S POSITION IN DANGER BECAUSE OF THIS?!
IT IS ALL MY RESPONSIBILTY...
SFX: *CLENCH*
I ENDED UP USING THAT PICTURE TO HAVE HER COOPERATE WITH US IN OUR SHOWDOWN WITH OZMA...
TO THINK THAT THE PICTURE WOULD END UP IN THE HANDS OF SOMEONE OTHER THAN HER IS JUST...
I REALLY... I REALLY AM SORRY...
B-BUT...

NOT TO MENTION... EVEN IF PEOPLE MISUNDERSTAND IT, WHY IS IT SUCH A SERIOUS MATTER?
THERE ARE A LOT OF TIMES... WHEN AN EDITOR AND AUTHOR COME INTO CONTACT SO IT WOULDN'T BE THAT UNUSUAL TO SEE THEM CLINGING TO EACH OTHER, WOULD IT?
TO BEGIN WITH, WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO MEDDLE IN SOMEONE ELSE'S LOVE AFFAIRS?!
THERE ARE...
A FEW COMPLICATED CIRCUMSTANCES AS WELL.
JUUMONJI-SAN'S FORMER CHIEF EDITOR...
……!?
WAS A PERSON THAT, WHILE A WOMAN, CLIMBED TO THE TOP TO WORK AS THE HEAD EDITOR AT COMIC HEAT, BUT...

SHE ENDED UP CROSSING THE LINE WITH A MALE AUTHOR SHE WAS IN CHARGE OF... AND SHE WAS CAST OUT BY EIDANSHA.
!!
THAT A SCANDAL LIKE THAT WAS TO NEVER HAPPEN AT THE COMPANY AGAIN...
カタカタ
AND THE SUCCESSOR TO THAT FEMALE HEAD EDITOR, JUUMONJI-SAN, HAD BEEN ESPECIALLY CAUTIONED IN THAT REGARD.
THAT RUMOR SPREAD IN AN INSTANT.

THAT'S WHY, WHEN JUUMONJI-SAN BECAME HEAD EDITOR, SHE ACTED COOLER THAN ANY-ONE ELSE WHEN SHE CAME INTO CONTACT WITH PEOPLE.
EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS A MUCH MORE EMOTIONAL GIRL...

SHOULD THE COMPANY FIND OUT ABOUT THIS NO MATTER WHAT THE TRUTH MAY BE...
SHE PROBABLY WON T BE ABLE TO AVOID RESIGNING...

JUUMON-JI-SAN WILL PROBABLY BE HERE SOON.
...!
I HAD ORIGINALLY INVITED HER TO CELEBRATE YOUR GETTING 1ST PLACE AND YET...
FOR IT TO HAVE TURNED OUT LIKE THIS... JUST HOW SHOULD I APOLOGIZE TO HER...
バーン
ガク
THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT I SHOULD TELL YOU ABOUT IT FIRST...
...!!
ダダダ
AAH!

CH- CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI?!
GO AFTER HER!
……!?
PLEASE, INAMINE-KUN!!
DON'T LEAVE JUUMONJI-SAN!
DON'T LEAVE SAYAKA ALONE!

SFX: HAA

はあ
What is...
はあ
はあ

What is...
What is...
What is...!!
This picture... of Inamine-sensei and myself?
What in the world is it?!

For me of all people...

To become a burden to Inamine-sensei is-!!

…
Forgive me, I'll mail it at once!
For the time being, I'll send the back-up I have on my phone first.
I…
What in the world have I done…
うるうる

WHY AM I SUCH AN IDIOOOT?!
THIS...
THIS ISN'T... WHAT...
ダダダッ
CHIEF EDITOR...
JUUMONJI!!
…!?
はぁ
はぁ

THAT AFTERNOON

どよ～ん
I-I'm sorry! Would you like me to get you a new one?

PLEASE... BLAME ME
…?

はは
THE-THERE JUST SO HAPPENED TO BE A VENDING MACHINE NEAR HERE.
SO I JUST RANDOMLY BOUGHT SOME DRINKS, WHICH ONE WOULD YOU LIKE?
…
Lemon

WHA- WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ALL OF A SUDDEN?
IT'S FINE, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO BLAME ME,
THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO IF YOU THINK ME A TROUBLESOME WOMAN.
CHI- CHIEF EDITOR...
WHEN I'M ACTUALLY CLUMSY AND CAUSE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE FOR OTHER PEOPLE-,
AND, OF ALL THINGS, TO HAVE MADE EVERYTHING GO UP IN SMOKE AT SUCH A CRUCIAL TIME-.
THAT'S RIGHT, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT...
IT TAKES ALL I HAVE TO ACT LIKE A COOL WOMAN.
SO PLEASE CURSE ME WITH EVERYTHING YOU HAVE!
BECAUSE I'M AN IDIOT AND SUCH A TROUBLESOME WOMAN!
I JUST CAME TO HELP YOU WIN AGAINST OZMA AND I'VE MADE A COMPLETE MESS OF THINGS!!

WITHOUT YOUR HELP, CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI...
...!
BEING THE MAJOR AMATEUR THAT I AM ...
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO HAVE MADE SUCH HUGE ACHIEVEMENTS ...
YOU'RE NOT A BURDEN.
AT ALL.
ｸﾞｯ

IT IS I WHO SHOULD BE...
HOW SHOULD I APOLOGIZE...
ALL YOU DID WAS HELP IN GUIDING ME.
I REALLY AM... SORRY.
AND NOW YOU'VE BEEN DRIVEN THIS HARD INTO THE CORNER...
YOU'RE... WRONG.
I'M... I'M THE ONE IN THE WRONG...
...!?

I ENDED UP HARBORING PERSONAL FEELINGS FOR INAMINE-SENSEI...
IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY...

SFX
BLUSH
かぁ
I REALLY AM SORRY...
EVEN THOUGH INAMINE-SENSEI WORKED SO HARD AND WAS ABLE TO PRODUCE RESULTS...
ぐすっ
CHI-
CHIEF EDITOR JUUMONJI?

I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO BLAME HINATA-SENPAI...
...
!?
IF I HAD ONLY SAID THAT, THIS NEVER WOULD HAVE HAPPENED ...
IT WOULDN'T HAVE COME TO THIS...
WHAT DO YOU...?
SORRY... UMM...
...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN... BY BLAMING SAWANOGUCHI?
SFX: *TWITCH*

ドクン
ドクン
YOUR FORMER CHIEF EDITOR...
THE ONE WHO CAUSED A SCANDAL WITH A NEW AUTHOR AND WAS CAST OUT...
...
DO YOU MEAN... COULD IT BE THAT...
ドクン
SFX: *BA-THUMP*
IT CAN'T BE... DO YOU MEAN IT WAS... CHIEF EDITOR SAWANOGUCHI?!

ドクン
ドクン
SFX: *BA-THUMP*
ドクン
ドクン
ドキドキ

PREVIOUSLY,
FELL IN LOVE...

THAT'S... RIGHT...
HINATA-SENPAI...
...!?

WITH THE NEW AUTHOR, OOMURA SHOGO,
WHO SHE WAS IN CHARGE OF.

YOU MEAN OZMA'S SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR?
YOU MEAN THAT OOMURA?
OZMA
OZMA
:
SAWANO-GUCHI, SHE...
THAT'S RIGHT.

HE WAS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER AUTHORS... HE TRULY WAS A PRODIGY THROUGH AND THROUGH.
WITHOUT SUCCUMBING TO HIS OWN TALENTS AS AN AUTHOR, HE WAS ABLE TO POUR HIS BURNING PASSION INTO HIS WORKS MORE THAN ANYONE...
NOT ONLY THAT, HE HARBORED A CHARISMA THAT FASCINATED PEOPLE...

HINATA-SENPAI CAME TO REALIZE HIS TRUE ABILITIES...
WHILE FEELING THAT SHE SHOULD BE THE ONE TO GUIDE HIM AS AN EDITOR
SHE LEARNED FROM HIM, THE AUTHOR, THAT AS HE CAME TO LEARN THINGS, SHE CAME TO KNOW OF HIS KINDNESS
HOWEVER, BEFORE LONG, THOSE TWO...
DEVELOPED A RELATIONSHIP THAT WAS BEYOND THAT OF PARTNERS
I'M SURE TO OOMURA HE THOUGHT THAT HE WOULD GAIN MANY THINGS FROM IT...
BUT IF HE HAD REALIZED IT, I'M SURE HE'D FIND THAT HE HAD LOVED HER AS A MAN LOVED A WOMAN
SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS...
BUT, WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT,
...
WHEN IT COMES... TO THOSE TWO...
...
SOMEHOW, IT FEELS LIKE I CAN REALLY UNDERSTAND IT...

I THINK...
EVERYONE FELT THAT WAY AT THAT TIME.

OOMURA SHOGO...
STARTED TO MAKE HINATA-SENPAI HIS BY RESTRAINING HER ...
...!?

MYSELF AS WELL, AS I WAS WORKING UNDER SENPAI AS AN EDITOR...
ALONG WITH THE AUTHOR THAT WAS WORKING UNDER OOMURA...

AS THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM CAME TO REALIZE THEIR RELATIONSHIP RIGHT AWAY,
THEY WERE MUCH LESS WORRIED BUT MORE ANTICIPATING THE WORK THAT THEY WERE MAKING.
...

ぎゅっ
THAT WAS UNTIL...

SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OOMURA RESTRAINED ...
...
SAWA-NOGU-CHI-SAN?!
YOU SHOULDN'T EVER HAVE TO WASTE THAT ON TALENTLESS PEOPLE!
AS AN EDITOR, YOUR POWER TO SEE THROUGH A WORK IS THE REAL THING!
PLEASE COME TO MY PLACE!
AND PLEASE USE THAT POWER FOR ME AND ME ALONE!!

CERTAINLY SENPAI CAME TO ACKNOWLEDGE OOMURA
BUT AS SHE CAME TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH HIM SHE COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH HIS DESIRE TO MONOPOLIZE HER...
...
There was the senpai who wanted to devote herself to finding the hidden talents of authors and nurturing them and...
The Hinata-senpai who Oomura Shogo...
Wanted to move as he wanted and use her power for himself to make waves in the manga industry...
Soon enough those two clashed... and in the end...
ドーン
GET OUT HERE!! OZMAAA!!
YOU PIECE OF SHIT!!
ドーン
ドーン

WHY WOULD YOU MAKE SUCH LIES?!
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT SHE BULLIED YOU AND HELD BACK YOUR SERIZATIONS?!
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT SAWANOGUCHI-SAN COERCED YOU?!
TELL EVERYONE THE TRUTH NOOOOOW!!!
WHY DID YOU ENTRUST YOURSELF TO A NEW AUTHOR?!
WHY DID YOU GIVE IN TO HIM?!
BECAUSE HE HAD IT...
WHY IS SOMEONE LIKE YOU GIVING IN TO THOSE IDIOTIC RUMORS?!
AS I SAID!!

HE REALLY DID HAVE IT...
SOME KIND OF BLINDING, ALL-TOO-BRIGHT LIGHT...
I THOUGHT I WOULD GAIN SOMETHING...
EVEN IF I WERE TO THROW MYSELF AWAY...
AT THAT TIME, SENPAI...

AND AT THE CORE OF IT, IT WAS DUE TO HIS FANTASTIC ABILITY TO JUDGE THINGS THAT HE WAS ABLE TO PRODUCE ONE HIT AFTER ANOTHER.
HOWEVER, THAT'S WHEN SENPAI REALIZED THAT SHE WAS WASTING AWAY IN FRONT OF HIM.
AND TOLD HIM THAT THEY HAD TO GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS.
WAS JUST AS OZMA DESIRED.
SOMEONE WHO WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HIS STORY-BOARDS OR MANUSCRIPTS.
THAT IS PROBABLY WHERE HE LEARNED HOW TO BE ABLE TO JUDGE THINGS FOR HIMSELF.
BUT, OOMURA REJECTED THAT AND SO AS TO KEEP SENPAI RESTRAINED...
TOOK CERTAIN MEASURES...
AND SENPAI LOST THE PLACE WHERE SHE BELONGED
...!?
HE WAS THE ONE WHO SPREAD THE RUMOR...
THAT WOULD MAKE HER KNOWN AS "NOVICE EATER SAWANOGUCHI...

サアア

…
BECAUSE SHE WOULDN'T DO AS HE WANTED?

WHY WOULD HE...
MAKE HIS OWN BENE FACTOR...
ARE YOU SAYING HE RUINED HER...

…?
AS FAR AS I KNOW, TO OOMURA SENPAI'S EXISTENCE WAS...

THAT'S ALL...
HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN DESPERATE...

I admire Sawanoguchi-san, but...
...!?
I'm no match for Oomura-senpai...
That can't...
No, she's like a goddess to him...
For him, Sawanoguchi-san is... a god.
That he didn't want to lose the support of the goddess that he could rely on...
I mean... he's... a weak person...
Oomura, why?!
Why would he do something that would humiliate senpai?!
Then how?! Why?!
Is it because he's human...
...!?

I... LEFT THE COMPANY WITHOUT ANY ARGUMENT...
AFTER THAT AS WELL, SENPAI LOOKED TO HAVE BECOME ATTACHED TO THE IDEA OF RESULTS AND I REPELLED HER.
THAT WAS JUST ME WANTING TO OPPOSE OZMA'S METHODS...
IT WAS JUST ME BEING CONCEITED.
...

AND IN THE END, I AM THE SAME.
…?
カッ
カッ
I USED INAMINE-SENSEI SO AS TO CLEAR AWAY MY FAULTS AND NOT ONLY THAT, I ENDED UP BECOMING AN IRREVOCABLE NUISANCE TO YOU.
…
I AM TRULY, TRULY…
SORRY, INAMINE-SENSEI…
UNTIL NOW, I THOUGHT YOU HATED SAWANOGUCHI-SAN, BUT…
…!?
ピク
IT'S ACTUALLY THE OPP-OSITE, ISN'T IT?

I WAS THINKING THAT IT MIGHT BE BECAUSE YOU'RE BOTH PEOPLE WHO THINK SO SERIOUSLY ABOUT MANGA,
THAT YOU CAN'T HELP BUT MAKE BETTER WORKS...
I-I'M NOT-!!
SHE GOT TEMPTED BY OZMA!
AND I BELIEVE HER STICTLY GUIDING A NOVICE AGAIN IS THE COR-RECT PATH, BUT AS FOR HER-!
BUT, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE HER DON'T YOU?
!
I THOUGHT THIS AS I WAS TALKING WITH YOU, JUUMONJI-SAN, BUT...
That's unbelievable!
YO-YOU'RE WRONG!
I WOULD NEVER...

EH?
THIS MAY SOUND STRANGE...
BUT SAWA-NOGUCHI-SAN'S BEING DRAWN TO OOMURA-SAN...
AND OOMURA-SAN'S ATTACH-MENT TO HER...
AS WELL AS YOURS AND MINE-SENSEI'S FRUSTRATION AS YOU WERE AT THEIR SIDE WATCHING OVER THEM.
...

ALL OF THAT, EVEN IF ONLY A LITTLE, CAME FROM THE SAME DESIRE TO MAKE A GREAT WORK.
AND THERE WAS NO TELLING WHEN IT WOULD GIVE WAY TO STRONG EMOTIONS...
WH-WHY DO YOU TALK OF SUCH THINGS?
THROUGH LOVING, HATING, AND LAMENTING...
WITHIN ALL THAT, NUMEROUS WORKS ARE BORN.
AND THE READERS SHOULD BECOME MOVED BY THEM.
IT IS DUE TO SAWANOGUCHI-SAN, JUUMONJI-SAN...
OZMA AND MINE-SENSEI...
HAVING BLENDED ALL THEIR FEELINGS INTO MAKING A WORK.

EVEN IF THEY ARE... OOMURA-SAN'S FEELINGS FOR SAWANOGUCHI-SAN...
SAWANOGUCHI-SAN'S EXPECTATIONS OF OOMURA-SAN...

OR THE HEARTS OF JUUMONJI-SAN AND MINE-SENSEI.
AS THEY WATCH OVER THEM... ALL OF IT MIXES TOGETHER AND COMES OUT IN THE WORLD OF THE PRODUCT...
AND MY DREAM AS A MANGAKA OF COMING TO TOUCH THE WORK I GAVE BIRTH TO WILL SEE ME THROUGH.
THAT'S WHY I WILL NEVER,
THINK OF IT AS WASTED ...
...
IT'S ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT I'VE GROWN IN THIS INDUSTRY.
AGAIN, IT'S BECAUSE IT'S BEEN A DREAM OF MINE TO BECOME A MANGAKA LIKE THE ONES I'VE ADMIRED.

EVEN IF I WIMP OUT NOW I WILL DO MY BEST FOR WHEN THE NEXT CHANCE COMES AGAIN.
SO MY BEING IN 1ST OR 2ND PLACE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

BUT, IF NOTHING ELSE, I'D LIKE IT IF MY NEXT WORK REALLY SENT SHIVERS DOWN OZMA'S SPINE.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S DECIDED THAT I'LL BE GETTING 2ND PLACE THIS TIME, THOUGH.
AAH... I'VE BEEN SAYING NOTHING BUT WEIRD AND CONCEITED STUFF THIS PAST WHILE, HAVEN'T I?
I'M SORRY, EVEN THOUGH I'M A NOVICE, I SAID THAT IN FRONT OF THE CHIEF EDITOR...
And really went all out
NOT AT ALL.
WHAT?
SENPAI REALLY WAS RIGHT...
ぽと
EVEN IF A REAL FLOWER IS CRUSHED UNDERFOOT...
IT WILL BLOOM WITHOUT BEING DISCOURAGED.
I-I'M SORRY, WHAT ARE YOU-?
THAT IS...
WHAT?

INAMINE-SENSEI
TRULY IS A WONDERFUL PERSON.

NEXT TIME,
THE HEATED
BATTLE BETWEEN
INAMINE AND OZMA
IS FINALLY
SETTLED!!
今号2話一挙掲載!!
こいもく最終話はこの後すぐ!

FTH
scans
Kaimaku
raw NJMANGA
translator GottErstechen007
cleaners Rayuaza•tactics
typesetter SeismiC
quality checker AnonMan•SeismiC
fth-scans.com
irc.rizonirchighway.n #fthbot

BIT BY BIT, AS THE WORK DESK BECOMES STAINED AND SULLIED, MEMORIES AND HARD WORK BEGIN TO RESIDE WITHIN...
DUNK
DUNK
DUNK
★コミックス1～4巻／全国書店・通販サイトで好評発売中！★
こいもく
最終話
CIMOC
STORY OF CARTOONIST AND TRUE LOVE / PRESENTED BY ARTLIM MEDIA
原作 林達
作画 海河
by ARTLIM MEDIA

IN THIS MONTH'S SPLASH, AIKAWA'S CHAPTER 3 IN THE SHORT SERIALIZATION
WILL TAKE FIRST PLACE.
オオ～

NO.
IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL.
ざわざわ
……?
IS THE REASON THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR IS SO CONFI-DENT
BECAUSE YOU GOT SOME INFORMATION ON WHAT THE OTHER SIDE IS DOING?
HOW-EVER, WE MUST WIN WITHOUT FAIL.
THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED.
ざわ
会議室
ざわ
WELL, THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR DID SAY THAT, SO THERE'S PROBABLY NO DOUBT THEN.
THAT'S TRUE.
SO IT MEANS THAT, AFTER ALL WE DID TO PERFECT IT, THAT MANU-SCRIPT IS NOW READY FOR THE FINISHING TOUCHES, HUH.

THAT'S TRUE...
NOW THAT THE BOSS HAS SPOKEN, WE'RE SURE TO WIN.
バタン
...
THAT REALLY IS JUST LIKE THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR, HUH? NO MATTER THE CIRCUMSTANCES,
HE ALWAYS PRODUCES RESULTS...
!?
WASN'T WON WITH ACTUAL MERIT... IT'D BE FRUSTRATING, WOULDN'T IT?
THERE WAS NEVER A TIME WHEN THE BOSS' PREDICTION DIDN'T BECOME REALITY.
THA-THAT'S TRUE...
BUT, IF THAT VICTORY...
カッ

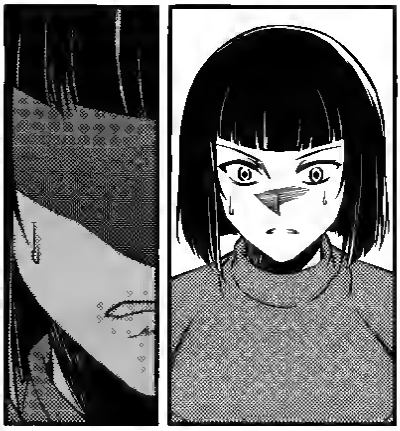
ナッ
ナッ
WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO KNOW BESIDES THAT,
DEPARTMENT HEAD, SATO?
OZMA
HMM...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE HEARD, OR FROM WHERE, BUT...
I SAID THAT WE WOULD WIN.
ナッ

ふう
THERE'S...
SOMETHING ABOUT AIKAWA'S CHAPTER 3, ISN'T THERE?
LIKE SOME KIND OF SECRET MEASURE THAT WILL ENSURE OUR VICTORY...

THE- THEN!
SHE JUST HAS TO DRAW AS SHE HAS DONE UP UNTIL NOW.
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?
DO I LOOK LIKE A MAN WHO DECLARES WE'LL WIN IF I'M NOT POSITIVE?
WHAT IS THAT SECRET MEASURE?
AS ONE WHO WORKS FOR OZMA, I THINK IT IS IMPOR- TANT THAT I KNOW.
SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OOMURA.
...

IF WE CAN PROTECT THE OZMA LABEL THAT WAY,
THEN SO BE IT.
スッ
SATO...
DON'T THINK SO SEVERELY. THIS IS A BUSINESS.
WHAT WE HAVE TO DO IS MAKE IT SO AIKAWA TAKES 1ST PLACE.
OF COURSE THAT IS OUR INTENTION, BUT WE MIGHT LOSE FOR ALL YOU KNOW...
IT'S ALSO TRUE THAT IT'S CHAOTIC RIGHT NOW,
...!
BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY YOU SHOULD TELL EVERYONE NOW IF YOU HAVE A BASIS FOR PREDICTING OUR VICTORY ...
YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
AND YET YOU'RE STILL A DEPARTMENT HEAD OF OZMA?
WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN WINNING...
IS THAT WE END WITH RESULTS, ISN'T IT?

!!!
NO, I'LL END UP DESPISING YOU AND FEEL THAT YOU'RE UNNECESSARY,
SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OOMURA!!



...
YOU'RE WRONG... AT LEAST FOR ME.
...?
WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO ME RIGHT NOW IS THAT ...

IF WE WIN BY MEANS OTHER THAN PURE MERIT...
AND IF WE WON BY UNDER-HANDED MEANS...
I'LL END UP DESPI-SING OZMA...

WHAT DID YOU JUST...
TO ME, IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY-THING...
I'M BEG-GING YOU! ANSWER ME, PLEASE OOMURA-SAN!
HOW IS AIKAWA GOING TO WIN AGAINST INAMINE KOUTA?!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
ANSWER ME WITH THAT OVERLY CONFIDENT VOICE OF YOURS!
...!
PLEASE, DO AS YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE...
AND SUR-PRISE THEM!
SURPRISE US!
HAA
HAA
...
HAA
HAA

FINE THEN ...
I'LL TELL YOU.
IT'S WHAT THE BOSS DECIDED.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
NO... IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY.
.....?

IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE POWERLESS...
IT'S BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER THAT THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR...
THAT THE BOSS WAS PUSHED SO FAR!
I'VE ALWAYS... RESPECTED HIM.
EVER SINCE HE SAVED US FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR...
THAT'S WHY I SAID I'D FOLLOW HIM FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE...
THAT NO MATTER WHAT HE DID, I WOULD BELIEVE IN HIM...
THAT'S WHAT I HAD SWORN, AND YET...

WE'RE ALL TOO INCOMPETENT... AND WE BECAME A BURDEN TO HIM...
FOR HIM TO CHANGE LIKE THAT... AND THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO STOP HIM IS JUST...
CERTAINLY... RIGHT NOW THE BOSS IS PUSHING HIMSELF.
I'M SAYING THAT, TOO.

WE...
HAD A GOOD TIME, DIDN'T WE?
NOW THAT IT'S BECOME LIKE THIS...
IT'S A HARD JOB, BUT WE ALL GOT TOGETHER, WORKED HARD,
AND GRABBED HOLD OF MANY PRECIOUS THINGS, TOO.
WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO THOSE TIMES,
BUT WE, AT LEAST
WANT TO PREVENT "WORTHLESS VICTORIES" FROM COMING TO OZMA, DON'T WE?
BUT, I MEAN YOU...
I'LL BE FINE~

THEY SAY THAT GIRLS ARE STRONG, DON'T THEY?
BUT... YOU'RE A GUY, AREN'T YOU?
SHUT UP! I'M A BONA FIDE WOMAN IN MY HEART!
Did you read this issue's hit? If something like this is a hit, then what we're making is even better, huh?
All right! If we keep going like this, it'll be a piece of cake to make a debut hit!

Well, but...
It's best you don't get so conceited.
If we have Oomura-san's storyboard and our art we'll shine well beyond the rest, you know.
That's right! During planning, Oomura-san said that our art ....
Is sure to be the best in Japan!!
DEPARTMENT HEAD IWASAKI...
AH
AH...
カチャ
AIKAWA...

I WILL BE SURE TO PROTECT THE OZMA LABEL!
PLEASE WATCH ME!
I AM THINKING OF DOING ALL I CAN TO WIN.
...
GO- GOOD WORK~
SO, HOW'S THE WORK COMING ALONG? IS IT GOING OKAY?
...
NO... TO BE HONEST, AFTER LOOKING AT INAMINE KOUTA'S CHAPTER 2, IT ISN'T AT ALL...
BUT...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF UP THE WALL LIKE THAT.
WHAT?
BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO WIN.

I CAN'T DO IT!
TO WIN DUE TO SHADY DEALINGS AND NOT MY OWN MERIT IS JUST...!
JUST HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO ACCEPT THAT?!
はぁ
はぁ
はぁ
はぁ
はぁ
SFX: HAA

I BELIEVE THAT, IN TIME, YOU'LL BECOME PLENTY CAPABLE OF GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH INAMINE KOUTA,
BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANY TIME RIGHT NOW.

THIS IS A BUSINESS.

IT'S ALSO MY RESPONSIBILITY SINCE I CHANGED OUR STRATEGY THIS TIME.
TO THINK THAT OUR OPPONENT WOULD DO SOMETHING AS OUTRAGEOUS AS THIS...

HOWEVER, AN INDIVIDUAL WORK LIKE THIS WILL SHOW ITS LIMITATIONS IN TIME.
IF YOU LOOK AT IT IN THE LONG RUN, WE... NO, YOU, WILL GET YOUR CHANCE.
THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO GO ALONG WITH MY PLAN THIS TIME.
IF YOU DO THAT,
WE'LL BE ABLE TO PROTECT OZMA'S LABEL.
I...
...
!?
WON'T.
HONESTLY,
SUCH AN UNCOMPREHEND-ING BUNCH OF PEOPLE...

DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT DRAGGING OZMA...
IN WITH YOUR PERSONAL FEELINGS IS OKAY?
!?
WHY DO YOU...
WHAT?
DO YOU REALLY NOT GET IT?
WHEN YOU HAD JUST MADE YOUR DEBUT FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR MEASLY BRAND...
!?
WHAT I'M ASKING YOU IS IF YOU DON'T MIND...
HURTING OZMA, WHO WORKED SO HARD TO BUILD YOU UP THAT THEY THOUGHT THEY'D COUGH UP BLOOD?!
THIS IS HOW OZMA DOES THINGS!!
IT WON'T BE JUST YOUR LOSS!
TO HAVE NOT UNDERSTOOD THAT AND TO THINK YOU'VE COME THIS FAR CALLING YOURSELF AN AUTHOR!!

WHA...
!?
WHAT SOPHISTRY...!!!
uuu
uguu
uguu
...

ガタッ
IF YOU THINK THIS IS A SCHOOL...
THEN THIS CONVERSATION WON'T GO ANYWHERE.
...
GO BACK TO YOUR STATION
AND CONTINUE WORKING.
うじうじ
As it is now...
I... liked manga... and loved OZMA'S works...
...
I don't like it at all...
The one who's mistaken is you, Senior Managing Director
YOU'RE WRONG
...!?

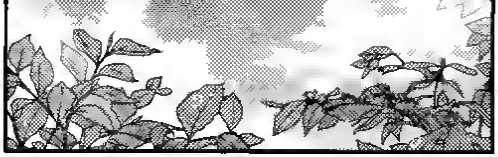
SFX: UUU
EVEN THOUGH I CAME HERE... TO MAKE MANGA WITH THE AUTHOR I ADMIRED...
うう
AS IT IS... IF WE WIN LIKE THIS...
I WILL... NEVER BE ABLE TO DRAW AGAIN...
I'LL END UP HATING MANGA...
AND... THE OTHERS WILL COME TO THINK THAT AS WELL...
THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO READ THIS MANGA!!
THAT THEY'LL WANT TO KEEP AWAY FROM OZMA!!!
SFX:UWAAAAA
I LIKE OZMA!
!!!
THAT'S WHY... THAT'S WHY!!
I BELIEVE OZMA WILL WIN WITHOUT FAIL!
EVEN IF IT'S IMPOSSIBLE RIGHT NOW...
ONE DAY, I'LL CATCH UP TO INAMINE!!
AND YET, THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR IS... STEALING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO OUTDO INAMINE!!
THIS ISN'T THE OZMA I KNOW!!
AS OZMA IS NOW...

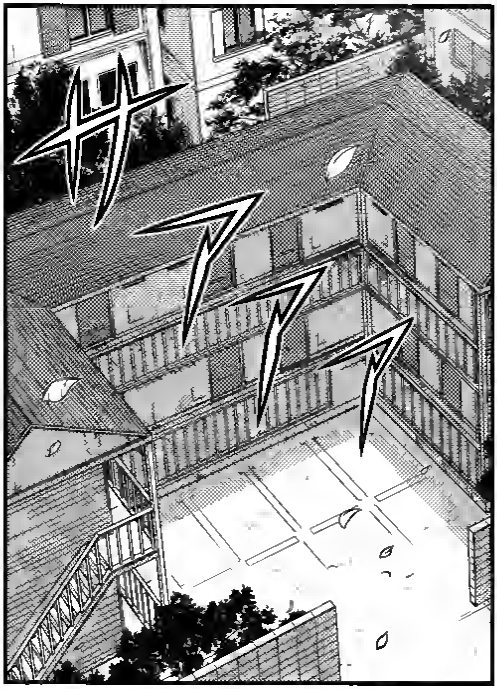
IT WON'T EVER BE ABLE TO BEAT INAMINE KOUTA!!!
AIKAWA...
THAT'S ENOUGH... STOP.
...
うぉぉぉ
どぅっ

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER.
SHE'S STILL A KID, AFTER ALL...
バタン
DO YOU... THINK SO, TOO?
...?
THAT THE "DEFEAT" THIS TIME...
IS WORTH MORE THAN THE "VICTORY" I'VE MADE?
WHO KNOWS?
I WOULDN'T KNOW ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT~

I MEAN, ISN'T IT THE BOSS'S JOB TO MAKE THAT SORT OF CALL?
!
バタン
ALRIGHTY THEN, I'LL GO TOO.
I'M GONNA GO CHECK UP ON THOSE TWO, OKAY~
ガチャ
…

スッ
…





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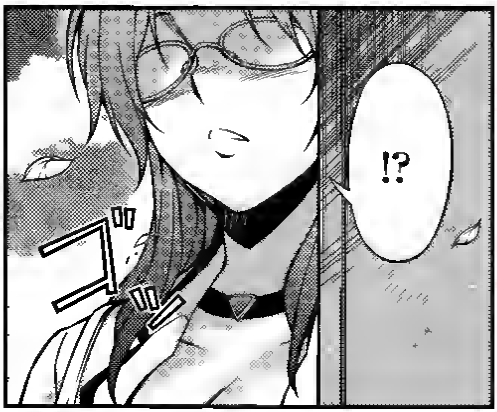
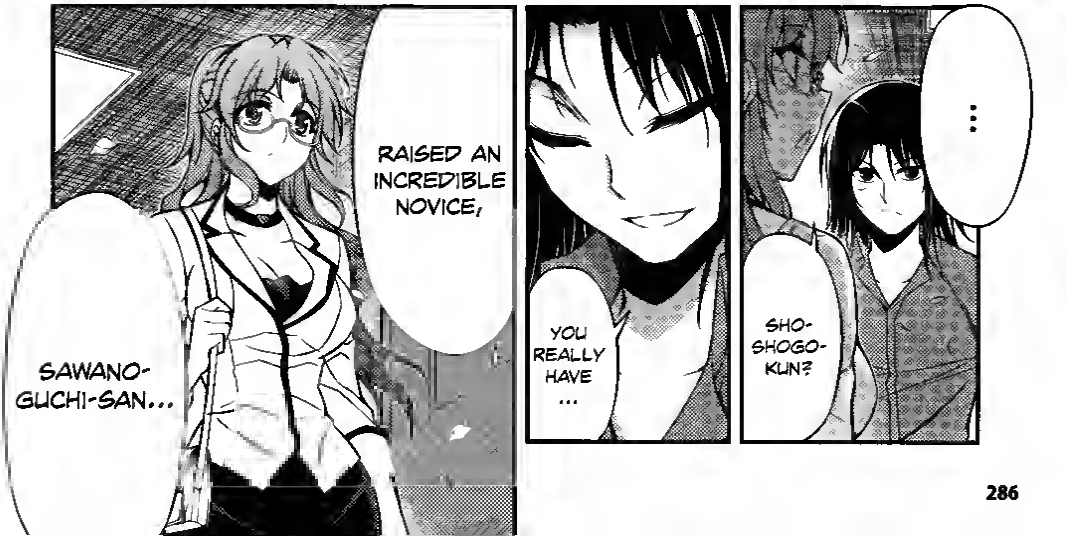

!?
ゴッ

HONESTLY...
I'M NO MATCH FOR THEM...

SHOGO... KUN?
PLEASE DON'T BE SO GUARDED.
I JUST CAME HERE TODAY TO HAVE AN HONEST CHAT.
...
HONEST CHAT?

WITH THIS SERIALIZATION SHOWDOWN,
LET'S SETTLE THIS... FAIRLY.

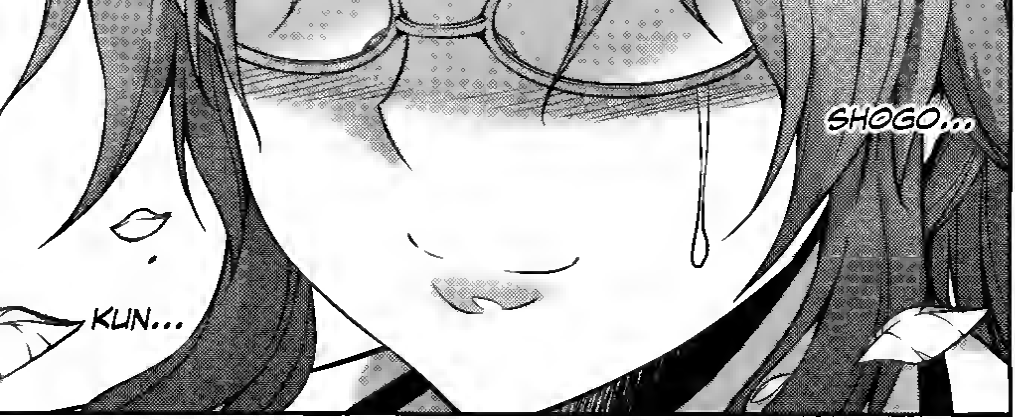

SAWANO-GUCHI-SAN...
RAISED AN INCREDIBLE NOVICE,
YOU REALLY HAVE ...
SHO-SHOGO-KUN?
...

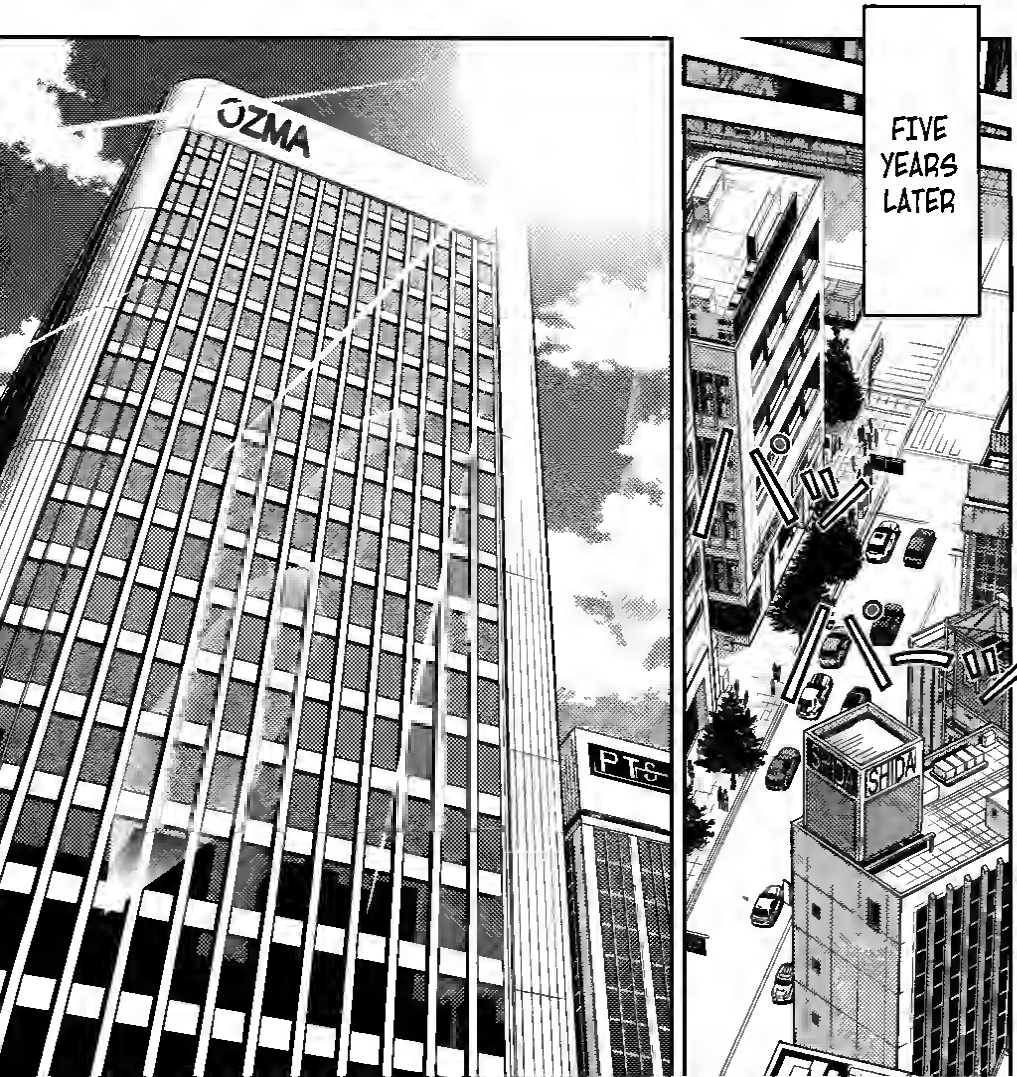
I TOLD YOU BEFORE DIDN'T I?
THAT I DIDN'T RAISE HIM...
ALL I DID WAS...
"FIND HIM"
…!

THAT'S RIGHT,
I FOUND HIM...

JUST LIKE...
WHEN I FOUND YOU, OOMURA SHOGO...
....?

HUU... IT'S ALSO BECAUSE THE EGG I FOUND, TOO...
DOESN'T LIKE A STRAIGHT PATH...


SHOGO...
KUN...


FIVE YEARS LATER
OZMA
PTS
SHIDA

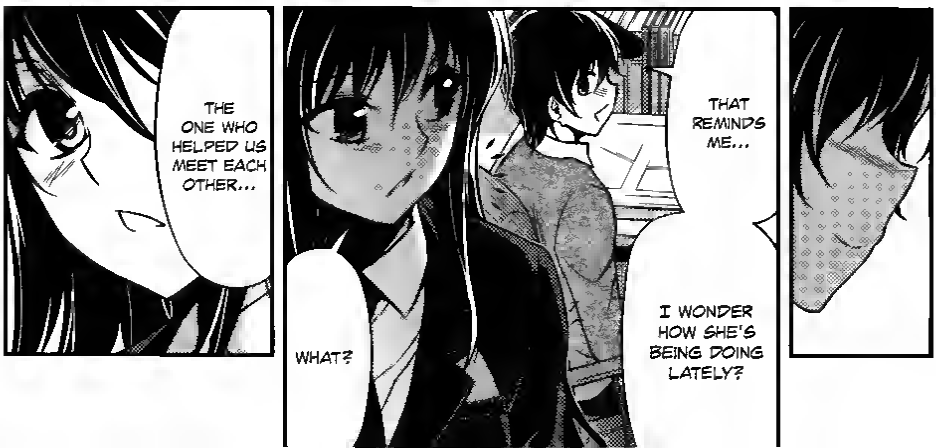
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO WORRY, THEN GET TO WORK ALREADY!
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO FINISH THIS UP IN AN HOUR!
TEAM LEADER! CAN WE REALLY GET THIS DONE IN TWO HOURS?
Good morning
Good morning
YA~ HOO~
I CAME TO HANG OUT~
WHAT IS IT? COMING HERE... AGAIN... WHEN I'M BUSY...
SO, ABOUT THE BOSS SAYING HE'LL TREAT ME TO DINNER TONIGHT...
EH? WHAT BROUGHT THIS ON ALL OF A SUDDEN?
DO YOU THINK I HAVE TIME TO BE EATING THIS?
Here, a treat~
I KNEW IT, 100 PAGES A MONTH IS IMPOSSIBLE, HUH?

YOU MAY ASK WHY, BUT THE "CHEAP DEAR" YOU'RE DRAWING RIGHT NOW...
HAS JUST BROKEN 500,000 YEN IN ITS FIRST EDITION~
HOW ABOUT IT? AIKAWA? YOU'RE HAPPY, AREN'T YA~?
MO-MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'M WORKING ON A DEADLINE NOW!
PLEASE TELL THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR THAT I'LL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND!
EEEH?! DO YOU REALLY NEED TO GO THAT FAR?
I MEAN, ISN'T EVERY-THING THAT YOU'RE DOING NOW JUST THE FINAL ADJUST-MENTS?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? EVEN IF THEY'RE JUST ADJUSTMENTS, I CAN'T LET UP AT ALL UNTIL THE END!
AND BEING A PART OF THE 500,000 CLUB ISN'T ALL THAT AUSPICIOUS AN ACCOMPLISHMENT!
HASN'T THAT NEW WORK OF INAMINE KOUTA'S BROKEN 700,000?!
あん？
JUST HONESTLY! EVER SINCE HE DEBUTED, HE SWEPT PEOPLE OFF THEIR FEET AND HAS BEEN SELLING LIKE CRAZY!!
HE HAS HIS LIMITS BECAUSE HE'S A SINGLE PERSON?
IN WHAT WAY?! THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR'S A LIAR!!
…

OZMA
I-IT COULDN'T HAVE~ SHEESH, THIS KID...
YOU SURE THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR'S INTUITION HASN'T GOTTEN DULL?!
PTC
THERE WASN'T ANY HELPING IT THIS TIIIME... ONE OF MY STAFF SUDDENLY GOT SICK AND COLLAPSED...
I DID ALL I COULD ABOUT THE PRINTERS, BUT PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THE DEAD-LINE HAS NOT CHANGED, SENSEI!
INAMINE
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO MAKE EXCUSES THEN PLEASE KEEP WORKING!!

WHEN YOU ARE EARNING MONEY, YOU SHOULD PUT EVERYTHING YOU HAVE INTO EARNING IT!! YOU ARE AWARE THAT THAT IS THE PRINCIPLE FOR A MANGAKA, ARE YOU NOT, SENSEI?!
SINCE THE FIRST EDITION OF THE 3RD VOLUME OF YOUR WORK GOT 700,000,
ドーン
ドーン
THEN YOU SHOULD AIM FOR 1,000,000 WITH YOUR 4TH VOLUME!!
ひぇ～ん
YE- YES...
UWHOA... AIN'T SHE SCARY...
BEFORE HER THE AUTHOR'S NOTHING BUT NUMBERS AND NUMBERS...
THAT'S THE STANCE OF THE EDITOR FOR YOU.
AS SOMEONE YOU'RE MARRIED TO IT'S BEST YOU AVOID BEING THEIR EDITOR HUH...
...!

THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY IN THAT REGARD.
IT IS PRECISELY BECAUSE I APPEAR AS AN EDITOR TO PEOPLE THAT I CAN REMAIN AS ONE.
EH? THEN WHY ARE YOU INAMINE-SENSEI'S EDITOR?!
ははは
IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH MY BEING MY HUSBAND'S EDITOR?!
HAHA...


THE ONE WHO HELPED US MEET EACH OTHER...
WHAT?
THAT REMINDS ME...
I WONDER HOW SHE'S BEING DOING LATELY?

THE ONE WHO ALSO...
HELPED US MEET THIS CHILD...
WHEN MIYU IS BORN,
HOW ABOUT WE GO SEE HER FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE?
...
KNOW-ING HER,

EVEN NOW, SHE'S SURE TO BE...
ざわ
ざわ
New Author Consultation
YOU HAVE A LOT OF UNNECES-SARY CUTS...
ペラ
WHAT'S IMPORTANT HERE IS EX-PRESSING THE EMOTION IN THE EYES. YOU CAN'T JUST DRAW AS YOU SEE FIT.
RI-RIGHT...
SORRY...
BUT I THINK IT HAS QUITE A FEW PROS-PECTS.
HOW ABOUT IT? WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY CHALLENGING YOURSELF WITH US ONE TIME?
WHAT?!
IF YOU'LL LET ME, I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU ASK ME!!
I SEE... THEN,

WILL YOU TRUST ME
AND STICK WITH ME UNTIL THE END?
THANKS SO MUCH FOR READING THIS WITH SUCH PLEASURE!